



Young singers contest.
(See page 6 for details).

Bridgend & Porthcawl GEM



"Your ORIGINAL priceless weekly newspaper"

The area's
longest serving
Community
Newspaper

Established 1983

FRAZER METALS

WANTED:

All scrap or unused electrical cable (household) (armoured) (single phase) etc.

Also wanted: Non-Ferrous Metal and Vehicles.

OPEN 7 DAYS

UNIT 2, WOODHAM ROAD

NO. 2 DOCK, BARRY CF63 4JE

01446 732222

07816 205895

Weekly audited distribution (52 weeks) to 31/12/10 - **41,621**
(GEM Series). Audited by David Pinder & Co Ltd. Chartered Accountants.

www.bridgend-today.co.uk www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND, 2012

COULD YOU BE IN THIS PICTURE?



THIS photograph was taken at a street party in Porthcawl around the time of Queen Elizabeth II's coronation in 1952, possibly on New Road or at Newton.

If you are in the picture, or if you have any information regarding when and where the party is taking place, and why, please contact Keith Morgan on 01656 788150.

GRAFFITI ARRESTS

TWO Bridgend men have been arrested in a clampdown on graffiti in the area.

Police reported that two men, aged 22 and 23 years, were seen in Park Street in the early hours of Tuesday, January 17.

They were arrested under the charge of going equipped to cause criminal damage, a police spokeswoman

stated. Officers were also focusing on the Pencoed area, and are hunting those responsible for another recent spate of graffiti at buildings including Pencoed Swimming Pool and the New Surgery.

Contact Bridgend Police Station on 101, or Crimestoppers (anonymously) on 0800 555 111.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY IN THE BOROUGH

'We must learn the lessons of the past'

— WARNS BRIDGEND COUNCIL LEADER

YOUNG people in the county borough have taken part in a moving ceremony to honour the six million Jewish victims of Nazi genocide during the last war.

It was organised by Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) in the council chamber, to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27, the date on which the Nazi death camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated.

Holocaust Memorial Day commemorates the victims, honours sur-

vivors and commits to tackling prejudice, discrimination and racism in the present day.

A film involving five year-10 pupils from Maesteg Comprehensive — Anabell Rees, Cerys Mitchell, James Pritchard, Madison Thomas and Iwan Thomas — explored links between this year's theme of 'Speak Up Speak Out' and their own work with BCBC's peer mediation project.

It also featured the pupils' moving interpretation of the famous Holocaust poem *First They Came*.

Film maker Ed

Sinclair said: "I wanted to create a moving yet inspirational film for the audience to personally relate to, no matter what their background."

"I consider it a real privilege to be able to recognise and remember those in the past who stood up for what was right."

During the ceremony, the traditional Holocaust Memorial Day 'Seven Statements of Commitment' were read by members of the community, a candle of remembrance lit, and a minute's silence held to remember all those lost in the Holocaust and other genocides.

Angharad Roberts, a harpist from the council's music service, opened and closed the ceremony, which was hosted by Bridgend Youth Theatre's Lowri Izzard, 18, and Joe Wiltshire-Smith, 16.

Guests represented a wide cross-section of the community and included South Wales Police, religious and community groups, charities and campaigners.

Speaking at the event, BCBC leader Coun Mel Nott, said: "We come together for Holocaust Memorial



Pupils from Maesteg Comprehensive involved in the Holocaust Memorial Day film.

Day because we are committed to remembering the millions who have been murdered in the Holocaust and the genocides in Armenia, Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

"But we also want this to be about learning lessons from the Holocaust and applying them to the present day, to create a safer, better future for all."



The Youth Theatre's Lowri Izzard and Joe Wiltshire-Smith at the event.

Ty Risha

Grand Opening



Join us to celebrate our re-opening

Friday 10th February from 6.00pm &

Live Entertainment Saturday 11th February at 8.30pm

Ty Risha

Pen-Y-Cae, Bridgend CF32 9SN
tel: 01656 725 287

For great offers at the Ty Risha and other Brains pubs visit www.brainsoffers.com

Arrest after drugs raid

A 48-year-old man from Bridgend has been arrested on suspicion of possession and intent to supply a Class A substance.

Police said that a man had been found in possession of Class A drugs with an estimated street value of between £30,000 and £50,000, and that officers also recovered a large amount of cash and jewellery from a property.

The arrest was part of Operation Atlas — a day-long drugs operation that saw a number of warrants executed across the Bridgend, Maesteg and Porthcawl areas.

The multi-agency operation was supported by the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP), Bridgend Community Safety Partnership and British Transport Police.

'MP should back government reforms'

IFIND it incredible that Madeleine Moon MP has the front to criticise the UK Coalition Government as being a 'danger to the fabric of democracy' – when the Labour Government, of which she was a part, decimated parliamentary democracy during their 13-year tenure in office.

Tony Blair's sofa-style Government treated Parliament with contempt; Gordon Brown's coronation treated the electorate with contempt; and the Labour-backed unions' block vote to elect Ed Miliband to the leadership of the Labour Party, contrary to the wishes of the majority of individual Labour Party members and parliamentarians, is hardly democracy in action.

In contrast, the UK Government has a wide-ranging programme to improve the political system it inherited from Labour and is bringing in reforms which will make our political system more accountable and more transparent.

PRIVATE SECTOR CLINICS FLAW

IT appears that Andrew Lansley, the Secretary of State for Health, is proposing that private sector clinics be allowed to 'sub-contract' work from the NHS.

This may or may not be a good idea – but, according to the article, he is not going to insist on their having professional indemnity insurance.

Such a policy will leave those using the clinics at risk if they fail to carry out an operation properly, in exactly the same way that the recent problem over private-sector breast implants

They include fixed-term Parliaments; a reduction in the number of MPs and more equal electorates; a power of recall, enabling voters to force a by-election in cases of serious wrongdoing; reducing electoral fraud by speeding up the implementation of individual voter registration; reforming parliamentary privilege; cutting the perks and bureaucracy associated with Parliament – and publishing the salaries of the highest-earning civil servants. The list goes on.

Instead of opposing much-needed reforms which will restore the trust of the British electorate with the political process, after the widespread abuse of the expenses system, perhaps Madeleine Moon's efforts could be devoted to encouraging her Labour colleagues on Bridgend County Borough Council to pay more attention to democracy; and be more transparent and open with the people who elect them – when it comes to the thorny issues of Porthcawl regeneration and job evaluation – rather than burying their heads in the sand.

Alex Williams,
Pencoed Conservative
councillor.

FOR far too long, communities across south Wales have been plagued by the menace of wild horses roaming free and unchecked through lanes, estates, commons, school grounds; indeed, anywhere that provides the opportunity of something for them to eat.

Considerable damage has been caused to gardens, property, fencing, school grounds, etc, and the time has come to call a halt to this situation once and for all.

Within BCBC, particularly in the Cefn Glas, Bryntirion, Laleston, Pen-y-Fai areas, and in the neighbouring Vale villages, straying horses have become a daily menace.

A solution is needed, and needed fast, if we are to ensure that no serious injury – or worse – is causing to local residents who

may encounter wild horses on the highways, pavements or in enclosed spaces.

These horses are generally very hungry and will stop at nothing in those circumstances.

Bryntirion Comprehensive School, for example, has had to spend tens of thousands of pounds attempting to repair the damage to their school fields – and still the menace remains a constant problem. This is wasted money spent that might otherwise be put to better use educating our children.

The laws surrounding this issue are extremely weak and it is a simple task to eradicate the problem.

Both BCBC and the Vale Council are working very hard to try and find a solution, but it is an uphill battle.

In my view, only 'People Power' will help to solve this problem and I urge any local resident who encounters problems

and distress from this menace to keep a regular log of incidents, dates, times, locations, etc, so that if and when the local councils can find a way to act against the perpetrators, we can be fully armed with evidence from all quarters.

I am assured that the issue is being dealt with at the highest levels – both within councils and the South Wales Police.

There is also involvement with the Welsh Assembly in an attempt to find ways to toughen up the law, so that nobody is above it, when it comes to the stable and democratic will of the people to go about their everyday business unimpeded by this danger.

I urge everyone involved to redouble their efforts against this menace in our midst.

Councillor David Unwin,
Bridgend County Borough
Council.

FLY-GRAZING DEBATE: 'Special task force is needed'

IWRITE as chairman of Maesteg Animal Welfare Society, which works hard throughout the year to protect animals.

I would like to commend the Vale Council, as reported in last week's GEM, for its decisive action in rounding up 60 horses left to 'fly graze' on other people's land.

These horses are not abandoned in the true sense of the word – they are all owned – but are left to fend for themselves or starve.

I do think that everyone should apply whatever pressure they can on the Government to get this insane policy changed.

Gavin Davies
Penmark

The Vale Council has now taken these innocent creatures to horse sanctuaries in England.

I contrast this action with that of Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) which, as far as I know, has signally failed to take similar action.

The result was that last winter, we had hundreds of starving horses which had been dumped in the Pen-y-fai-Llangowydd area constantly breaking out in their desperate quest for fodder, causing distress to all animal lovers locally and creating a highway hazard in the

process. I ask these questions – Why did BCBC not use the same powers last year that the Vale Council have used this year to tackle this problem?

And why are they not acting this year to deal with a similar problem on their patch, albeit on a smaller scale?

A spokesman for Bridgend County Borough Council said: "As this is a regional issue which affects the whole of south Wales, Bridgend County Borough Council is working in close partnership with South Wales Police, the Vale Council and organisations such as the RSPCA.

"We are constantly monitoring the wellbeing of the horses, which are being kept on areas of privately-owned land, and we are liaising closely with both the landowner and the owner of the horses, to remind them of their various responsibilities.

"Independent equine vets and RSPCA officials have confirmed that there are no current welfare concerns, and that the animals have access to food and water.

"Together with our partners, we are working towards a long-term solution – but in the meantime, we will continue to act within the remits of the current legislation."

Councillors act to close gate to abandoned mine site



PHOTOGRAPH by NATASHA HIRST.

THREE local Labour councillors have taken action over an abandoned opencast mine in Kenfig Hill.

They plan to secure what they say is a dangerous site, by locking an open gate which has allowed children to access the area – despite councillors raising awareness about public concerns last November.

Pyle ward councillor Clive James, was joined by Coun Pauline James and Community Council vice-chair Luke Ellis to place a lock on a gate.

Coun Clive James said: "I am frankly shocked that any company would allow this gate to remain wide open for two months, when we were promised action to remedy this matter.

"In the end, after seeking advice, we decided to take the tools down there and protect our local children with a lock we provided."

Coun Pauline James added: "As parents and grandparents, we don't understand why they would ignore the public's concerns about this open gate, which is sec-

ond from a deadly drop into an unsecured void, with no safety equipment or life rings anywhere. Protecting our children is our main concern."

Coun Luke Ellis, vice chair of Pyle Community Council, said:

"Local Mams and Dads will be pleased to hear that this most open of the unsecured entrances to this deadly void, has finally been made safer, though only through direct action from Clive James and your local Labour community councillors."

FREE MUSIC
EWENNY Arts Festival at Ewenny Priory Church presents Atlantic College International Choir (under musical director Mr Chris Davies) on February 9 at 7.30pm.

It features sacred music, spirituals, madrigals and international music from around the globe.

Admission is free, but donations are welcomed. Further information from Helen (01656 667047) or Mari (01656 664105).

HIGH TIDE TIMES (UNTIL FEBRUARY 9)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20–25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
02 Thur	00.45	7.3	13.33	7.2
03 Fri	02.18	7.5	15.07	7.5
04 Sat	03.41	7.8	16.11	8.0
05 Sun	04.34	8.2	17.01	8.4
06 Mon	05.12	8.8	17.42	9.1
07 Tues	05.53	9.3	18.22	9.4
08 Wed	06.36	9.9	19.01	9.8
09 Thur	07.17	10.1	19.39	10.0

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

BCBC offers help to cut back on 'trips to the tip'

LOCAL residents visiting Bridgend county borough's four household recycling centres, will be offered free help and advice – in a special pilot project running throughout February and March.

BCBC's recycling and waste partners May Gurney are putting a dedicated team of 'recycling advisors' in place to give out free recycling handbooks and answer general queries about bulky and domestic waste.

The grant-funded team also hope to show residents how they might save a 'trip to the tip' by taking advantage of their weekly kerbside recycling collections instead.

They will operate at the Heol Ty Gwyn site in Maesteg, the Penllyngwnt site in Ogmore Vale

and the sites in Brynmelyn and Tythegston.

Coun Phil White, BCBC cabinet member for communities, said: "We hope to learn a bit more about why residents are using council tips and how we can help them save a bit of time and petrol money by reducing their visits."

"Ideally, the tips should be for the bulky waste that can't be recycled weekly at the kerbside, but we recognise that people use them for many other things."

"We're offering residents the chance to give us their feedback on our kerbside recycling scheme, answer any queries they have and offer them a free handbook to how it works."

Coun White stressed that the help is optional and the team will offer as much or as little advice as is required.

BRIDGE CLUB

THE Bridgend Bridge club results for Wednesday, January 25, are as follows:

First, Mary Moore and Di Jones; second, Liam Sheridan and Andrew Scott; third, Dave Barwood and Geoff Barnes.

Friday, January 27, north/south: First, Mary Moore and Peter Bugden; second, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams; third, Irene Thomas and Bill Turner. East/west: First, Alan Newman and Sheena Gray; second, Marjorie Morris.

CALL FOR RETHINK AFTER FORCE NUMBERS PLUMMET 'I WILL VOTE AGAINST THE POLICE CUTS'

- vows Ogmore MP

THE MP for Ogmore, Huw Irranca-Davies, is calling on the Government to rethink its approach to policing – after latest figures show police numbers have fallen to the lowest for a decade, including the loss of 158 in south Wales since March 2010.

"The figures show that there are now 8,000

'Beware PC scam' says Trading Standards

BRIDGEND County Borough Council's Trading Standards Service is warning residents to be aware of a scam involving so-called protection for their PC.

"It involves an unsolicited phone call, from a person claiming to be from Microsoft with an offer to provide your PC with protection against viruses and identity theft," a spokeswoman said.

This is done by allowing the caller to gain remote access to the computer – but if the consumer does not agree to pay a 'service charge' of up to £200 then the caller claims the PC will no longer be accessible.

BCBC Deputy Leader David Sage, whose Cabinet portfolio includes Trading Standards, warned residents to be on their guard against this type of scam:

He said: "This increasingly popular scam has reappeared in recent weeks. By complying with the requests of the scammers, there is a very real possibility that your personal data can be stolen and used by others."

"We would not advise anyone to allow access to their personal computers, mainly due to the

secure information such as bank details and telephone numbers that can potentially be stolen. Microsoft is very unlikely to call you to discuss the security of your PC therefore we'd advise you not to engage in conversation with any unusual callers."

And it seems anyone can be targeted – even BCBC's own Senior Fair Trading Officer, Ellis Roberts, who received a call just like this. Ellis said: "The caller's tone seemed very sincere and genuine at first. However, it became obvious that he was rushing me to make a decision."

"The more questions I asked the more irate he became. When I told him I felt he was operating a scam, he shouted at me and disconnected the call!"

"These are typical actions of people who are intent on making money by methods of theft and fraud. Our advice is to disconnect the call immediately."

If you have received a call of this nature or know of anyone who may have lost money to this type of scam then please report the matter to Consumer Direct on 0808 156 6747, or via their website: consumerdirect.gov.uk.

Would you like an honest, reliable, affordable, police checked

CLEANER for your home.

Typically £10.50 per hour inc.

- Daily, weekly, etc.
- Insurance provided.
- All domestic cleaning undertaken.

TIME FOR YOU
DOMESTIC CLEANING

01656 349296 bridgend@timeforyou.co.uk
01443 625019 Miskin, Nr Cowbridge

www.timeforyou.co.uk

fewer officers on the streets, at a time when personal crime, which includes theft and violence, has gone up by a startling 11 per cent – the biggest increase in a decade.

"Labour is calling for the Government to reopen the police funding settlement when it is debated in Parliament next month," Huw Irranca-Davies said.

"People across Bridgend county borough will have real concerns about the loss of 158 officers here in south Wales. The deepest cuts to policing budgets will hit this year and HMIC estimate the loss of 16,000 officers through this Parliament.

POLICE VALUED

"People across Bridgend value the work that local police officers do in our community and I will be voting against the Government's police cuts next month."

He was supported by Shadow Home Secretary Yvette Cooper MP, who said:

"The scale of government cuts has led to the biggest fall in national police numbers in decades at the same time as we are seeing the biggest increase in personal crime.

"David Cameron and Theresa May are letting down communities and turning their backs on the police. They should be battling to cut crime, but they are just cutting the police instead.

CRIME RISE

"Police numbers have fallen to the lowest for a decade, with 8,000 fewer officers since the election and 6,000 since last year alone.

At the same time personal crime including theft and violence has gone up by 11 per cent – the biggest increase in a decade.

"The Home Secretary's 20 per cent cuts go much further than the 12 per cent recommended by the independent inspectorate and supported by Labour.

"The Prime Minister's decision to cut policing too far and too fast when many crimes are increasing is putting communities at risk. MPs of all parties should vote against the scale of Government's cuts to their local police force in Parliament on February 8."

brainer'.

That result allowed Oldcastle A to move into second place a couple of points behind Llangewydd.

Tyrisha Royals did well to win at Mackworth Arms 45-38 and the other divisional match resulted in a close win for Crown Inn A, who beat Six Bells 46-43.

In division two, it was the usual trampling of opponents by Tondu Railway Club. This week it was Pyle RFC's turn to suffer a 57-32 mauling.

Then came four teams, Laleston Inn B (who had a bye); Coyachurch Wanderers, 44-40 winners at Pheasant Gamekeepers; Oldcastle B, who beat Greenmeadow 46-41;



ABOVE: Cdt Cpl Danielle Young and Cdt Flt Sgt Nico Fitzgibbon.

Awards for two Cadets

CADET Corporal Danielle Young and Cadet Flight Sergeant Nico Fitzgibbon both received the Air Officer Commanding Certificate of Good Service at the Kenfig Hill Air Cadets annual presentation evening on January 27.

Taking place in the Selwyn Samuel Centre in Llanelli, the evening started with a welcome from Wg Cdr Mike Stone, which was then delivered in Welsh by Pilot Officer P Greene.

More than 50 awards were presented during the evening, including James Townsend receiving the award for the highest-scoring individual in the Aircraft Recognition under-16s competition at the Wing Field Day.

Mrs Lindsay Thomas, secretary of the civilian committee and squadron media communications award,



Lindsay Thomas with her Air Cadets media communications award.

Cadets Media Communications Award. If you are male or female and at least 13 years old, then why not join 2117 (Kenfig Hill) Squadron ATC? We are also looking for adult staff members and civilian committee members.

Parades are on Tuesdays and Fridays from 7pm to 9.30pm. For more information, telephone 01656 670125.

Recycling festive trees raises £1,500 for charities

LOCAL residents have raised £1,500 for charities – by recycling their Christmas trees.

It followed the launch of a Bridgend County Borough Council's scheme asking residents to put out their Christmas trees for collection with their usual weekly recycling, in exchange for a minimum £3 donation to charity.

A spokeswoman explained that the collections were made by BCBC's recycling partners May Gurney and were funded through a Sustainable Waste Management grant so that all donations could go to nominated charities.

More than 300 trees were collected between January 9 and 20 and the money will now be split between the Macmillan Nurses at Brynwyd Newydd, and the Mayor's Charity Appeal, which this year is aid of GLAZE Prostate Charity Wales, the

Bridgend and District Stroke Club and Bridgend County Riding for the Disabled.

The trees were taken to BCBC's highways recycling centre for chipping and composting.

Coun Phil White, BCBC cabinet member for communities, said: "This is the first time we have tried kerbside Christmas tree recycling and we're pleased that several hundred households took advantage of the scheme and helped raise money for some very worthy good causes. Thank you to everyone who started 2012 in such a green and generous way."

"Now we know that residents are willing to take part, we can look at how we can make more households aware for next Christmas and increase both the number of trees we collect and recycle, and the amount we raise for local charities."

Census email is a hoax

AN email being circulated in the name of National Statistician, Jill Matheson, is a scam, Bridgend County Borough Council's Trading Standards Service has warned.

The hoax email entitled "Population Census: a message to everyone - act now" demands individuals provide further personal information, supposedly for the census and threatens fines for non-compliance.

But it has no connection whatsoever with the National Statistician, the 2011 Census or the Office for National Statistics.

BCBC Deputy Leader

Councillor David Sage warned: "The ONS have advised that the links in the email could download malware to any computer where the user clicks on the links. This could put your personal data, including financial information, at risk.

"They have asked us to spread the word that anyone receiving this, or similar emails, should delete them, not open any links and certainly not provide any information."

You can report receipt of any such suspicious emails at www.action-fraud.org.uk or Consumer Direct on 0808 156 6747, or via their website: consumerdirect.gov.uk.

Quiz League round-up

LAST week, it was suggested that the champions of both divisions were, more or less, decided and both teams were unavailable.

For the second division at least, that's still true, but for division one the phrase 'egg on your face' springs to mind, as the leaders, Llangewydd Arms, lost at home to Oldcastle A by 50 points to 42.

Not only that, but second place Tyrisha Nomads faced Laleston Inn A (who lost all their nine league games this season) and were beaten 43-37.

True, they were without veteran Steve Williams and a man short, but most people thought this was a 'no-

and Pheasant Poachers who lost 46-40 away to Crown Inn B.

Here are your weekly posers:

1. Which English king was killed by a bolt from a crossbow?
2. England's largest forest lies almost entirely within the county of Northumberland. What is it called?
3. Which swimmer has the nickname 'The Baltimore Bullet'?
4. Which 2008 film starring Tom Cruise is based on a plot to assassinate Hitler?

A JUDGE (for Quiz League)

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Richard III | 2. Michael Phelps. |
| 3. Michael Phelps. | 4. Wall Street. |
| Answers: | |

Confidence is Attractive.

Professional Cosmetic & Weight Loss Surgery in South Wales

Book a consultation today

029 2083 6700 www.vale-healthcare.com

The Vale Hospital - Cardiff Bay Clinic - Vale Physiotherapy Clinic

Register for a free mini consultation at one of our Open Evenings.

Weight Loss: Thursday 16th February / 6.30pm

Cosmetic: Tuesday 13th March / 6.30pm

Text VALE to 61122



Vale Healthcare
Bumfield Health

CHOIR IN FINE VOICE FOR MAYOR'S CHARITY NIGHT

Cowbridge Male Voice Choir with musical director Shelley Thomas-Brown.



by PHILIP IRWIN

THE Cowbridge Male Voice Choir were the stars of an excellent concert last Saturday (January 28) – a charity event that also featured three local young soloists.

The concert, in aid of The Wales Air Ambulance and Marie Curie Cancer Care, the charities being supported this year by the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Andy Banks, was well supported and came close to filling the new theatre at Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

The event was also supported by the Mayor of the Vale, coun John Clifford, the Lord Lieutenant of south Glamorgan, Dr Peter Beck, Vale AM Jane Hutt and a host of mayors from towns in the Vale.

The choir, under the musical direction of Shelley Thomas-Brown, and accompanied on piano by Sandra Williams, sang five pieces in the first half, and another seven in the second.

Highlights included old favourites such as 'Cwm Rhondda', 'I Bob un Sy'n Fyddion', and 'American Trilogy' while the Russian piece 'Cavalry of the Steppes' was very impressive.

They finished with an emotional rendition of 'Morte Criste', and were greeted with a prolonged ovation.

There was plenty of applause too for the three soloists, all winners in last year's 'Music in the Vale' competition.

There were two examples of the wealth of talent being nurtured by the Royal College of Music and Drama in Cardiff in Grace Wain, a vibrant mezzosoprano with an impressive range, and Joe Atkin-Reeves, who plays the clarinet and alto-saxo-



ABOVE: Vale AM Jane Hutt flanked by Coun Andy Banks and his wife Gill (left), and Vale Mayor Coun John Clifford and his wife Christine (right).



ABOVE (left to right): Dinas Powys Mayor Coun Chris Williams and wife Jacqui, Llantwit Major Mayor Coun Eddie Williams and wife Karen, and Barry Mayor Coun Brownen Brooks and husband Wayne.

BETWEEN: The soloists (left to right): Grace Wain, Joe Atkin-Reeves, Hannah Clist, with accompanist Susan Bird.

phone in both classical and jazz styles.

Grace sang two songs, 'Chanson Triste' by Henri Duparc and 'Ching-a-ring Chaw' - a real tongue-twister by Aaron Copland.

Joe performed one long piece in three movements, the jazz-influenced 'Fuzzy Bird Sonata' by the composer Yoshimatsu.

Grace and Joe were accompanied by Sue Bird, a concert pianist who now lives in the Vale, and she also accompanied the third soloist, her daughter, cellist Hannah Clist, who is in her final year at Cowbridge Comprehensive.

Hannah performed 'Chant du Minestri' by Glasunov, and 'Requibus' by Cassado.

She started learning the cello at the age of five, and has already put together an impressive musical CV.



This year, she is fundraising after being invited to take master-classes at El Escorial (Madrid) in the Royal Palace.

In fact, she will be back on stage next week (February 7-11), as a member of the school orchestra for the drama department's production of the ground-breaking musical *Sweeney Todd*.

SHOUT speaker
THE next monthly meeting of Porthcawl SHOUT Forum will be held at Trinity Church, Porthcawl, on Friday, February 3 at 2pm.

Chairman Des Rees will welcome all those members of the public who wish to discuss matters intended to improve the town of Porthcawl and especially the concerns of the older community.

Guest speaker Mr Chris Williams, a consultant ophthalmologist, will be providing a powerpoint presentation on the subject of 'Macular Degeneration'.

Bridgend MP signs Book of Commitment

BRIDGEND MP Madeleine Moon pledged her commitment to Holocaust Memorial Day – by signing a Book of Commitment in the House of Commons that honours those who died during the genocides.

January 27 marked the 67th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau – the Nazi concentration and extermination camp which was the site of the largest mass murder in history – and in the weeks running up to the day, the Holocaust Educational Trust placed a Book of Commitment in the House of Commons giving MPs the chance to honour those who were persecuted and killed and encouraging constituents to actively speak out against prejudice and bigotry today.

Ms Moon MP paid tribute to the extraordinary men and women who, having survived the Holocaust, work to educate young people about what they endured through the Holocaust Educational Trust's Outreach programme.

Thousands of commemorative events are arranged by schools, faith groups and community organisations around the day. This year, people will also be



Madeleine Moon MP signs the Holocaust Memorial Day Book of Commitment in the House of Commons.

encouraged to take a stand against racism and prejudice today – and to speak out against hatred wherever they encounter it.

Ms Moon said: "Holocaust Memorial Day is an important opportunity to remember the victims of genocide. I encourage all constituents to mark the day and to commit to 'speaking up and speaking out' against prejudice today."

Kacey seeks kind owner

"HELLO, I'm Kacey, and I have been at the Bridgend Adoption centre for five long months now.

"I am a little shy around other cats and as you can imagine, this is not the best place for me.

"I am absolutely lovely with people and would make a wonderful companion. I would like a home where I can be the only paws!"

"Please come and say hello. I am staying in Ellen's Lodge at the moment. Thanks."

Kacey

• Contact Cats Protection on 01656 724396, or email bridgenet.cats.org.uk



KACEY.

Who wants to build what and where?

Kings Security Systems – Spar, 44 Llangwydd Road, Bridgend – Internally illuminated ATM surround with integral illuminated decal to advertise the ATM use.

ESA Tree Care – Y Llety, Heol yr Ysgol – Crown lift and removal of dead and unsafe branches and removal of overhanging branches.

Mr Edward Paul Williams – Tynewydd Farmhouse, Spion Kop, Ogmore Vale – Take down two trees and crown reduce canopies by 30 per cent and remove lower limbs to allow light through.

Mrs J Foulds – 10 David Street, Blaengarw – Two storey rear extension.

Mr Iwan Adams – 2 Port Terrace, Maesteg – Extension to rear to provide bedroom/utility room/dining room.

Greenbuild Wales Ltd – Plot adjacent 33 Duffryn Oaks Drive, Pencoed – Erection of three-storey detached building.

Playdays Nursery – 53 Commercial Street, Maesteg – Replacement windows and external doors (article 4 direction).

Kings Security Systems – Spar, 44 Llangwydd Road, Bridgend – Install ATM (cash machine) through new laminate panel to replace existing glazing panel within aluminium frame.

Mr Michael Clemett – 2 Hillcrest, Pen-y-Fai – Erect cottage on land west of Hillcrest Bungalow.

Ashi Properties – Land rear of 4 Grove Road, Bridgend – Detached four-bedroom house with detached

garage and parking.

Mr Richard Jones – Fernhollows, Glynogwr, Blackmill Road, Bridgend – Construct attached garage and additional living room to side elevations.

Mr Christopher Jones – Land at side of 5 Vale Reach, Penprysg Road, Pencoed – Include land into curtilage of dwelling to be used as domestic garden.

Mr Gerald Cumpstone – 40 Brynteg Avenue, Bridgend – UPVC lean-to at rear of property.

Mr P Green – Land adjacent 50-52 Angelton Green, Penyfai – New four-bed dwelling.

Canola House Residential Home – Canola House Residential Home, Heol Canola, Sarn – Single storey extension to kitchen and dining room. Neath Port Talbot CBC – Land west of Kenfig Industrial Estate, Margam – Request for screening option for proposed windfarm (tip height of 100 metres).

Mrs H Godding – 12 School Terrace, North Cornelly – Rear shower room extension and associated works.

Mr L Danter – 3 Hillcrest, Penyfai – Three detached dwellings in rear garden.

Valleys to Coast Housing – The Nurseries, site off The Mercies and 12-15 The Mercies, Porthcawl – 10 new dwellings with access road, widen part existing access road and new off street parking spaces to four existing dwellings.

Stagecoach students celebrate LAMDA examination success



Stagecoach Bridgend and Cowbridge students with their LAMDA certificates.



STUDENTS at Stagecoach Theatre Arts, Bridgend and Cowbridge, are celebrating record results in their recent London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) examinations.

Forty children, aged from six to 16, took an exam in 'acting' or 'speaking of verse and prose' – and all passed – maintaining the school's 100 per cent pass rate with consistently high marks. The children were assessed on knowledge, technique and interpretation of their performance, and received a certificate

and written review from the external examiner.

Stagecoach Principal Helene Reynolds said: "We offer LAMDA awards in addition to our weekly drama, dance and singing classes. Students can choose to take a LAMDA award to gain an accredited qualification, with the higher grades gaining UCAS points for university entry."

"We are pleased Stagecoach can provide this opportunity for our local children, and are delighted by their fantastic results."

40th anniversary for local Welsh folk dance group

A LOCAL Welsh folk dance group is celebrating its 40th year – and founder Mel Evans is still a stalwart member.

Dawnswyr Gwerin Pen y Fai first started in a scout hall in Pen y Fai, but now meets in Bryntirion. Over the years, the group has danced at numerous festivals in Wales, the UK and in Europe – performing a varied and exciting repertoire.

Nowadays, the group practices in Bryntirion, and they are celebrating their 40 years together with a twmpath at Brackla Community Hall this Saturday (February 4) at 8pm.

For more information on the group, contact Ceri Platts on 07976 594066.

Legion says a big 'thank you'

THE Royal British Legion has thanked people in Bridgend and local villages who helped the local branch raise £40,200.81 for the Poppy appeal.

A spokesman for the Bridgend branch said: "There are still those who have not donated who had wreaths, and it would be appreciated if they

could do so as soon as possible. "Thanks go to Bridgend Eye Clinic, all the charity organisers in Asda, Tesco's, Sainsbury's, Rhiw Centre and Bridgend Designer Outlet. "Without the help of volunteers, this fantastic amount would not have been raised."



HIGH-LEVEL MEETING LOOKS AT BOROUGH HOUSING ISSUES

DELEGATES from across Europe spent three days in Bridgend county borough for an event aimed at sharing ideas to make social housing more sustainable and efficient, and to encourage greater citizen engagement.

The grant-funded seminar was part of the Urbact II CASH scheme (Cities Action For Sustainable Housing) which is looking at ways of tackling fuel poverty, creating more sustainable, affordable housing and

reducing CO₂ emissions and energy consumption.

The Bridgend event provided an opportunity for European visitors to speak to local residents who have been involved in home energy efficiency improvements and to develop new methods for involving people in planning for the future.

Coun Phil White, BCBC cabinet member for communities, said: "This was a chance for us to share ideas and good practice. We are committed to working with communities to improve their homes and their

local environment and we understand the importance of building strong and positive relationships to do this."

Bridgend AM Carwyn Jones said: "This conference is very timely as the Welsh Government is looking at bringing forward a Sustainable Development Bill.

"I'm extremely pleased that such a prestigious European project has chosen Bridgend as a partner, and I extend a warm welcome to visitors who are joining us this week from across Europe."

MASSIVE SAVINGS ON A HUGE SELECTION OF BRANDED PRODUCTS

OUR BIGGEST FURNITURE SALE EVER! IS NOW ON

At least 25% off

L A B O Y and Natuzzi Leather Editions

SAVE OVER £300

Europa
WAS £499.95
NOW £199.00

CHAIRS
Many models and sizes available in fabric or leather from all leading manufacturers

VAT FREE
All customers receive VAT free quality

Specialist chairs also available for those over 20 stones

Sherborne single motor lift and rise reclining chair only £499.95

Dual recliners available at only £699.95

Unit 1, Retail Area, Llandow Ind Est, Nr Cowbridge, CF71 7PA
Tel (01446) 772927/772918
SAT NAV CF71 7PA

NORMAL OPENING HOURS:
MON, TUES, WED & FRI 9am-5.30pm, OPEN LATE EVERY THURSDAY 9am-8pm, SAT 9am-5.30pm, SUN 11am-3pm.

THE Place for Homes
THE FURNITURE SPECIALISTS

Visit our website at www.theplaceforhomesltd.co.uk
Enquiries email sales@theplaceforhomesltd.co.uk

NORTH BRIDGEND NEWS

A message for all readers in the north of Bridgend who would like to have items included in the community news columns of The GEM:

If you wish to submit reports on any social activity in this region, please contact me.
I am very approachable and will endeavour to include every newsworthy subject.

Contact details: CLIVE MITCHELL
1 Tyn-Y-Coed Close, Sarn, Bridgend CF32 9NQ
TEL: 01656 725399
email: tyncoed1@yahoo.co.uk



Choir's golden year

COR Meibion Cwm Garw (Garw Valley male voice choir) came into existence as the Garw Glee Party on August 30, 1962 in the Blaengarw Ambulance Hall. The first music it learnt was 'O, Peaceful Night,' under the baton of the founder and musical director, Mr Ieuan Rhys Williams.

It held its first local concert in the Nebo Chapel Blaengarw in March 1963 and its first performance in England was Redditch, Birmingham in 1965. Even in those early years, the choir realised its music was of sufficient merit to enter eisteddfodau, the first being the Loughor Eisteddfod in 1966. By 1969, the choir had progressed sufficiently to win the Cwmbrân Eisteddfod.

In 1970, the choir made its first visit to Scotland (Whitburn) and in 1972 its tenth anniversary was celebrated in the Noddfa Chapel, Pontycymer. There were guest appearances by Morlais and Pontypridd Male Voice Choirs, and the Bridgend Police Choir, with a recording being produced of the concert.

In 1974, the choir achieved success at the Rhydaman (A mman an fford) Eisteddfod – despite the fact that its membership had depleted to 22! A recruitment drive followed and was so successful that by 1978, the Garw Glee Party was able to register as the Cör Meibion Cwm Garw.

The latter years of the 1970s and the early 1980s included concerts with the Welsh Guards in 1979 and 1982, the first of a series of concerts in Salisbury and the 'The Festival of One Thousand Voices' at the Albert Hall in '79, '82, '84, and '87. The success of the choir was celebrated with the making of a record in 1987 with the Morriston (Swansea) Silver Band.

There followed visits to Elmstein (Germany) choir festival and it competed annually in the Miners' Eisteddfod in the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl.

In 1986, the choir won first prize with its renderings of Mozart's 'Ave Verum Corpus' and the 'Gloria' from the 12th Requiem Mass.

In the summer of 1987, the choir performed with Mike Doyle and a bevy of lovely ladies in Porthcawl's most successful summer season for years.

In 1991, Ieuan Rhys Williams retired as musical director due to failing health, and was succeeded by baritone Bryan Young.

Under his directorship, the choir has won the Miners' Eisteddfod, Porthcawl in 1992 and 93.

Over the years, the accompanists have been Mavis Roberts, Michael Davies, Russell Watts, Naomi Perkins, Mrs Jean Davies, Derek Jones, Mrs Valerie Francis and finally Mrs Margaret Rich.

This year, the choir is celebrating the 50th anniversary since its formation.

The choir welcomes visitors and new members at rehearsals in Pontycymer RFC on Monday and Wednesday evenings between 7pm-8.30pm.

Carers' centre

BRIDGEND Carers' Charity located in 87 Park Street, Bridgend (telephone 01656 658479), is a social centre for people who look after their parents, disabled children, friends or neighbours.

Today there will be an outreach group in Trinity Church Hall, Porthcawl between 10am and 1pm.

Tomorrow, there will be a 'looking after me' course between 10.30am and 1.30pm, will help carers look after their own health while caring for others. Call Paula for more information.

On February 6, between 10am and 1pm, and February 8, 1pm to 4pm, drop-in facilities are being provided for a sociable meeting with others in the same cir-

cumstances.

Also on February 6,

Cwthw between 1pm

and 2pm, gives the opportunity to practice reading out aloud.

February 7, outreach group in the Princess of Wales hospital, between 9.30am and 12.30pm; February between 10.30am to 12.30pm, a meeting of Health and Well Being group;

On Fridays at the centre, there are free counselling sessions with Macmillan and Relate, for carers affected by cancer. To book, call Rachel on 07582 874186.

Wildlife Trust

MEMBERS of the trust at Parc Slip nature reserve visitor centre, Tondu will restart Wildlife Watch activities for children aged up to 13 years on Saturday, February 4 between 10am and 12.00 noon. Suggested donation £2 per child to cover costs. For more information telephone 01656 724100 or email: info@welshwildlife.org

Tondu Primary School

THE next event in the Primary Schools' cross-country competition for pupils in years 3-6 is on Saturday, February 4 at 9.40am to register.

Year-5 pupils in Miss Watson's Taf class will be taking part in the Welsh Heritage Awards, looking at 100 years of education in Aberkenfig.

Year-6 pupils in Mrs Lucas's Usk class will be studying a number of various subjects, including 'The Wreck of the Zanzibar' by Michael Morpugo, and understanding the effects of friction on moving objects.

St Clare's twins toilets with Burundi

PORTHCAWL'S St Clare's school has twinned one of its toilets with a latrine in Burundi, one of the world's poorest countries, as part of the Flush Away Poverty scheme.

This raises funds for countries in poverty, while at the same time teaching British children about the importance of hygiene.

Gweiryd Williams, a senior environmental health officer with Bridgend County Borough Council, said: "I was appalled that in the 21st Century, people had to endure such indignity and danger – so when I saw a photo of a twinned toilet whilst reading a Tearfund Magazine, I was taken by such an eye-catching way to publicise this crucial problem."

"I contacted Mr Aguilar – headteacher at St Clare's – about the Flush Away Poverty scheme and a latrine was purchased for the school."

Young Singer of the Year



Bethan Langford talking to Joshua Mills.



ABOVE:
Rosanne Havel was a finalist in the young adult category.



The junior section winner was Lauren Coates of Bryntirion Comprehensive School.



ABOVE:
Assistant accompanist Geraint John.



Suzanne Hodges accompanist.



ABOVE: Tenor Joshua Mills won the young adult section.



ABOVE:
Coun Mel Nott, the Leader of Bridgend County Borough Council.



ABOVE:
Alun Hodges acted as the chair of the adjudicators.



Huw Irranca-Davies MP and wife Joanna, with David Brace.

Trevor snaps black and white award

THE Pyle and Porthcawl Photographic Society held its annual Alan Thomas Memorial Trophy competition for monochrome prints on Thursday January 26 at The Rest in Porthcawl.

The competition used the aggregate scoring method, whereby the total score for each participant's two entries decided the winner.

Brian Makinson ably judged the competition and not only awarded the points for each image, but also provided an excellent critique on each, along with some suggestions for improvement.

First place was shared between Trevor Owen with 'Growing Wild' and 'Gloucester Cathedral' (maximum point score), and Audrey Haberfield with



Trevor Owen (left) receives his prize.

'The Gatehouse' and 'Aberdulais Arches'.

Second place was shared between Martyn Derbyshire with 'Curly Tail' and 'The Look', and Richard Craze with 'Woody Mountains' and 'Moonlight on the Barn'.

Third place was also shared between Dan Minto with 'Roath Park' and 'Man in the Moon', and Glyn Edmunds with

'Let There Be Light!' and 'Dun Floatin'!'. Congratulations to Trevor and Audrey in winning such a close-run competition with only two points separating first and third places.

A big thank you to all who participated for making it such an interesting and entertaining evening.

GLYN EDMUND



Byron Davies pictured with dispatcher Kelvin Lewis at Bridgend Railway Station

Holocaust memorial day was 'moving'

I HAD the honour to represent the Mayor at Bridgend County Borough Council's annual Holocaust Memorial Day event last week.

I am sure I speak for all those who attended when I say how moving the ceremony was.

I was especially impressed by the film made in collaboration with pupils from Maesteg Comprehensive who linked the work they are doing on their peer education programme with this year's Holocaust Memorial Day theme of 'Speak Up Speak Out'.

I have no doubt that every person who left the Council Chamber after the ceremony, took away the important message of using your voice against intolerance and hatred to build a stronger community.

Congratulations to BCBC and all those involved in ensuring that this important day is marked with such dignity.

Coun Marlene Thomas,
Deputy Mayor, Bridgend County Borough

Bridgend railway station award deserved — says AM

SHADOW transport minister Byron Davies AM visited Bridgend Railway Station to personally congratulate staff on their success in the international station awards.

The Station was voted the best medium sized station at the international station awards held in Ireland.

It also won the prize for best overall customer service — Going the extra mile. It beat 45 other stations to take these awards.

Mr Davies, who is also a Welsh Conservative Regional AM for South Wales West, which includes Bridgend, said he wanted to meet everyone involved.

"This is no mean achievement," he said. "They were up against some stiff opposition. These awards cover things like transport

links, appearance, customer facilities and the focus of staff.

"Bridgend is a Brunel-designed station that dates from 1850 and has some Grade 2 listed buildings so it's good news to hear that it is being well looked after. It also handles more than 1.5m passengers a year so it's important that customer services are so good."

The station is run by Arriva Trains Wales and Mr Davies was met by Stewart Keay who is the station manager and Simon Turton, group station manager.

Mr Davies also chatted to some of the station's 14 staff members including Alison Devlin of Bridgend, who works in the ticket office and dispatcher Kelvin Lewis of Maesteg who has worked on the railways for 48 years.

Mr Keay said that the staff at Bridgend were like a small family with everybody working well together and helping each other out.

"We have a good team here and it's been reflected in these awards," he added.

The station is about to undergo access improvements being undertaken by Network Rail. Work will include a new footbridge crossing the line with lifts either end for the disabled. The existing footbridge is a Grade 2 listed structure which cannot be altered.

Mr Turton told Mr Davies that the biggest problem being faced by rail operators at the moment is the theft of copper cables by thieves which is causing huge delays across the network as signalling is put out of action.

He said that every minute of delay to a train costs Arriva between £35 and £75. Mr Davies promised to raise this issue with the Minister.



Prep and senior pupils, along with staff.

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL IS ON THE CREST OF SUCCESS!

LOCAL school, St John's in Porthcawl, has been praised for excellence recently, in three reports from three different organisations.

CSSIW (Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales) reported that "interactions between adults and children were observed to be warm and caring with praise and encouragement offered generously" and that the popular after-school club is a "well organized provision which places children at the centre of the care".

Thirdly, as an Investors in People organization the school's strong and supportive management standards were recognised and all staff praised for their skills and commitment.

All three reports emphasise the strong family ethos within the school, as well as its excellent organization and nurturing environment.

St John's caters for boys and girls, ages 3 to 16, and prides itself on its ability to identify and develop the talents and skills of every individual child.

Alongside its consistently excellent and value-added GCSE results for senior pupils, St John's has also recently received accreditation from CReSTE for "excellent and appropriate support offered to dyslexic pupils."

Recently the school has celebrated the individual successes of several pupils. Bibiana Viazzani has just been selected as a member of the newly formed and highly prestigious Kids Aloud Choir and will also be touring Russia with them; Cian Sparrow

is to perform in The King Carol Clint said: "As a and I, a production at the small school, with an New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff, Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an exceptionally nurturing environment. This top science scholarship ensures not only academic success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I, a production at the small school, with an

New Theatre by the excellent teaching staff,

Millennium Centre and we are able to provide an

exceptionally nurturing environment. This

top science scholarship ensures not only academic

success but clearly produces confident individuals who can excel in

Headmistress, Mrs a variety of areas."

Headteacher Mrs Clint congratulates school Head Boy, Hugh Perkins.

Carol Clint said: "As a

and I

YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE THE COMMUNITY NEWS



School cook Sarah Llewellyn and her kitchen colleagues.

WELL DONE!

Congratulations to Mynydd Cynffig Infants School cook Sarah Llewellyn and the kitchen staff, who were delighted to be highly commended in the 'Kitchen of the Year Award', at Bridgend Catering Awards with BCBC.

Staff at the school, the governors, pupils and parents, are very proud of their achievements.

Weather Week –

The school has just held a 'Weather Week' when the children were taught about all types of weather around the world. Year-2, were extremely lucky in being able to visit the ITV studio to experience weather forecasting first hand.

Year-1, set up their own weather station in the school and have thoroughly enjoyed recording the weather.

They have also compared our weather with schools in Cardiff, Africa and India.

KPC Youth

Sion Lamini has recently joined KPC to undertake a community Survey to find out what people think about the organisation and also to examine opportunities for developing services for parents and other adults in the community.

The survey was launched this week and the findings will be used to help shape future projects and building developments at the centre.

Over the next three months, their road-show will visit local shops, community centres and events in order to listen to residents' views and ideas.

They will also be going door-to-door with a short survey, in order to make sure that they hear from residents' across the area.

The aim of the survey is to find out what kind of training, support and activities local residents' would like to see offered at the centre, making sure that they focus on what people need.

This could lead to them working with

other community organisations in the area.

Project manager at KPC, Alison Mawby, emphasised that the survey will help the charity to grow and continue serving the community. They want to complement their youth work with support for parents and other adults in the community and also make sure they are led by the community's needs and aspirations.

The first road-show will be in Pyle Life Centre today from 5pm to 8.30pm and Wednesday, February 8 from 9am to 1pm.

For more information about the survey and to take part contact Sion Lanini on 01656 749219/07725 229152 or email: sion@lanini.co.uk

Scramblers seized

SCRAMBLER annoyance – After observing individuals using scramblers illegally and also on Kenfig Nature Reserve, a preserved site of scientific interest, PC Nichola McGill called for units to assist.

After being joined by the traffic department and the neighbourhood policing team they managed to seize four Scramblers and seven people were issued with warnings.

School news

Congratulations to the following pupils of Mynydd Cynffig Junior School who were nominated for impressing staff last week:

Hannah Lewis - Class 1, Hadi Akinpar - Class 2, Tomos Cooper - Class 3, Mark Underhill - Class 4, Connor John - Class 5, Jay Buckley - Class 6 and Jade Walker from Class 7.

Headteacher's award went to Gareth Davies.

Congratulations also

to Taryn Matthews,

Ebony Rees, Grace

Griffiths, Cerys Phillips,

Ellie Rees, Cerys

Brinkworth, Luke Tozer,

Alex Parr, Thomas

Knapp and Cai Quay

for their excellent

behaviour during

lunchtimes last week.

As a reward, they will be joining Mr Goldsworthy for lunch.

Cross-country –

Everyone is allowed to run in the next race this



COMMUNITY NEWS from KENFIG HILL AND PYLE by Richard Sims

*Telephone: 01656 746840
Mobile: 07802 439679*

E-Mail: richardsims@talktalk.net



Jorja Jackson, Alfie Law and Madison Llewellyn setting up a weather station.

Saturday, February 4 at Cynffig Comprehensive School.

Cricket –

Congratulations to Kyle Williams from year-6 who has been selected for West Glamorgan under-11 cricket squad. Kyle, who has been playing cricket for four years, is developing into a first class bowler.

Golf classes – The golf professional from the Grove Golf Club will be at the school for one hour per week during the next four weeks.

However, due to time restraints, only pupils from year-4 and 5 who will get the chance to 'have a taste' of golf during those weeks.

Wellbeing Centre

ACTIVITIES being held by Mental Health Matters, Wales in Talbot Community Centre, Prince Road on February 1 will be the reading group from 3pm to 4pm; Social afternoon from 1pm to 5pm.

Parish news

MOTHERS' Union AGM – The Mothers' Union held their AGM last Tuesday in the Church Hall, when

Mrs Greta Richards started worship, which included prayers, scripture readings and a hymn.

During the meeting, a letter was read from Mrs Betty Lingwood, thanking the branch for their support during the heart-breaking time of Jacqui's death.

Grateful thanks were also received from Mrs Millicent Davies, for everyone's support and concern as she recovers from serious surgery.

After the service, Rev Dr Duncan Walker thanked Greta and her team for their wonderful contribution to parish life during 2011.

The AGM asked Greta and her team to continue in office. THE SUNBEAMS meet every Tuesday afternoon at Cornelly Primary School at 3.20pm during term-time.

NEED a Lift – If anyone needs a lift to church, call one of the following: Rev Dr Duncan Walker, on 01656 740500/07766 710373 or Gareth Gardener on 07779 239302, who will also supply details of services.

At that time, the then Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip were visiting Kenya as part of an international tour, that was also to take in Australia and New Zealand.

When the news was relayed to the royal couple, they were staying at

REMEMBERING WHEN BRITAIN WELCOMED A NEW QUEEN

Images supplied by Mary Nifa Saunders (nee Bubb) and David Bubb, whose grandfather was Coun E Stanley Thomas, the chairman of Porthcawl Town Council in 1952.

THE King is Dead; Long Live the Queen!

This was the sad and starting news that greeted the British public, the members of the Commonwealth and the world on the morning of Wednesday, February 6, 1952.

It was a day when a young Princess became a Queen.

Next Monday, February 6, 2012, we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the accession of Queen Elizabeth II to the throne of the United Kingdom.

It was a truly sad event. King George VI had passed away peacefully in his sleep at Sandringham. At 56 years of age, he was relatively young by today's standards.

The King had suffered for quite some time with lung cancer and had had one lung removed in 1951.

A quiet and reserved gentleman, King George, and his wife, Queen Elizabeth, had endeared themselves to the British people by their strength of character, shown during the Blitz on London in World War II.

On many occasions, they had walked through the rubble of bomb damage to sympathise with the bereaved and homeless.

In those days, we saw the royal family as a unifying factor in a nation under threat.

By an odd turn of fate, as Duke of York, George had become King George VI when his elder brother Edward abdicated.

He was not ready to become King, he did not want to become King, and as we all know from the film *The King's Speech*, he had an awful stammer which he all but conquered.

On the King's death, 25-year-old Princess Elizabeth immediately became Queen Elizabeth II.

"Let us hope that we are witnessing the beginning of a new Elizabethan Age no less renowned than the first."

"We hope that Her Majesty The Queen and her Consort may live long and prosperously and may see more peaceful days than those which fell to the lot of His Late Majesty, whose loss we mourn today."

by KEITH E. MORGAN

the Treetops Hotel in the Aberdare National Wildlife Park, Kenya.

Arrangements were immediately made for them to fly home and they arrived back in London on Thursday, February 7, 1952.

Like all dramatic occasions, the death of King George VI and the accession of Queen Elizabeth II inspired many important people to voice memorable quotations, some of which are recorded here.

Eric Sherbrooke Walker, the founder of Treetops Hotel, said: "Many centuries ago, another Princess Elizabeth was sitting under a great tree in Hatfield Park when couriers announced to her that she had become Queen Elizabeth I."

"The remains of that tree still stand and bear a plaque. Similarly, a plaque was affixed to our mugu tree commemorating the accession to the throne of Queen Elizabeth II."

Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister, in a broadcast to the nation, said: "During these last days, the King walked with death, as if death was a companion, an acquaintance who he did not fear...I, whose youth was passed in the August, unchallenged and tranquil glories of the Victorian era, may well feel a thrill in invoking, once more, the prayer and the anthem: God Save the Queen."

Clement Attlee, the former Prime Minister, said in the House of Commons: "It is our hope that Her Majesty may live long and happily and that her reign may be as glorious as that of her great predecessor, Queen Elizabeth I."

"Let us hope that we are witnessing the beginning of a new Elizabethan Age no less renowned than the first."

"We hope that Her Majesty The Queen and her Consort may live long and prosperously and may see more peaceful days than those which fell to the lot of His Late Majesty, whose loss we mourn today."

It has now been expanded to include advice for victims of sexual violence.

Mrs Gregory said: "Having worked with groups active in this field for many years

Porthcawl Guardian

PASSING OF OUR BELOVED KING

COUNCILLOR ANGUS SMITH

ROYAL PROCLAMATION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH'S ACCESSION

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER MAJESTY'S REIGN

COULD NOT BE MORE APPROPRIATE

NEWS FROM THE BARRY MEN'S FORUM

Speaker describes helping the helpless children in India

OVER 25 years ago, our speaker, Mrs. Carol Evans, and her husband decided to take practical steps to tackle the great suffering caused by child poverty in south-east India.

They had found conditions to be appalling for young children, who with their parents were in a cycle of deprivation and poverty.

The causes of this were two-fold. Many had worked on the land but had been badly affected by a lack of rain and climate change.

In this area, they also found that 70 per cent of the population were cultural and religious outcasts who believed, with the majority of the rest of the population, that their huge sufferings were caused by their 'past-life' experiences.

Carol and her husband set to radically improve matters wherever they could. They discovered that the local children

were largely employed in the match factories. In other areas, it was dangerous and badly-run firework factories.

It was common for the owners of these establishments to offer parents of young children money to enable them to purchase the basics of life, such as food.

Repayment would always be at extortionate rates that were impossible to pay back. Factory owners would then 'suggest' that payment could be made by letting their children come and work for aittance, so that the debt could be worked off.

Carol also discovered that employers found it cheaper to employ little children than install machinery that could break down and involve installation costs. Children could always be replaced with others. Our speaker emphasised that all this took place against a constitution that made such practices illegal. This always seemed to be ignored.

Carol found that, despite India's

increasing wealth, grinding poverty for the masses was the norm and corruption seemed to be endemic.

The shelter and support that the Evans' were able to provide for the children proved to be something of a miracle. Many youngsters condemned to be street urchins are now adult teachers, accountants and other professionals.

The home in Pooncholai houses 75 children, plus local adults devoted to their young charges. Members of the forum found this to be an inspiring talk that illustrated how determination and compassion had brought great changes in the lives of those who had previously had so little.

The forum meets today (February 2) at United Reformed Church, Barry at 10.30am. Alden Grindale will give a talk entitled 'Historical Walk – Barry'. For further information about the group, telephone 02920 594881.

MAC TANNER

The Bead Room at Boxes & Busts
Invites you to learn a new skill

Workshops for intermediate and advanced students are available.
Please see
www.boxesandbusts.co.uk
For more information



Beginners Metal Clay Workshop

The Bead room is open
9am(–) 4pm Monday to Saturday

Boxes and Busts
Unit 19, Ty Verdin, Taff East, Cardiff Road, Barry
Vale of Glamorgan, CF63 2BE
01446 791230
www.boxesandbusts.co.uk

Feb 2012 Beginners
Workshop Schedule

Beginners Wire Work
Mon 6th Feb 6.30—9.30pm
Tues 7th Feb—10am—1pm

Beginners Chain Maille
Tues 7th Feb 6.30—9.30pm
Wed 8th Feb—10am—1pm

Beginners intro to Metal Clay
Tues 14th Feb 6.30—9.30pm
Thurs 16th Feb 6.30—9.30pm

The Basics of Jewellery Making
Thurs 16th Feb 6.30—9.30pm
Thurs 16th Feb 6.30—9.30pm

All workshops are inclusive of materials and use of tools.
10% off goods is also offered at the workshop for attendees

Conservatory? Extension? Or the Best of Both?

AN ORANGERIE designed and built by Vale Orangeries is the answer to such a dilemma.

Vale Orangeries is run by husband and wife Dean and Leanne Edmonds. They specialise in building bespoke, luxurious Orangeries.

"We are both passionate about creating beautiful living spaces, and our range of orangeries are just that. Each build is completely bespoke, tailor made to our clients' specification," explains Leanne.

Vale Orangeries have completed numerous orangery builds throughout south Wales with many showhomes available for private viewings.

"We offer a free consultation and design service and have various orangery builds available to view at our clients' homes. This is a unique opportunity to talk to our customers about their experience and see for yourselves the quality of our work."

There are several design packages available, including bi-folding doors,

recessed lighting options, underfloor heating, home entertainment solutions and an interior design service to help with those all important finishing touches.

Dean explains, "Having a living space built to your specification is a dream for many, and a reality for our clients. We ensure the whole experience is enjoyable and stress free." There is no need to concern yourself with architects, planning or building control as this is all part of the package. The only planning we want you to worry about is where to put your sofa! – but we can even help with that too!"

For updates on current and previous builds, visit www.valeorangeries.co.uk

If you are thinking of an extension or conservatory, but want something different call Dean or Leanne on 01446 746353 to discuss how a Vale Orangeries orangery can work for the way you live.



Extension? Conservatory? Or the best of both? The Modena Orangery Range by Vale Orangeries



www.valeorangeries.co.uk



www.valeorangeries.co.uk



www.valeorangeries.co.uk

- Orangeries
- Conservatories
- Garden Rooms
- Home Offices
- Living Spaces

Bespoke Affordable Luxury

01446 746353

info@valeorangeries.co.uk

www.valeorangeries.co.uk



VALE
ORANGERIES

All images featured are genuine projects completed by Vale Orangeries.

Out and About with The GEM

CLOONEY ON FINE FORM IN TOUCHING COMEDY DRAMA

HAVING hit critical pay dirt with middle-aged buddy 'dramedy' *Sideways* in 2004, Alexander Payne could have easily taken the ball and run with it.

Instead, the writer/director took a sabbatical, and only now has he returned to the big screen directing George Clooney in a novel adaptation, *The Descendants*.

Clooney plays Matt King, a man who wants to sell a piece of land his family own in Hawaii.

However, when Matt's wife suffers a boating accident, he must look after his two daughters (Shailene Woodley and Amara Miller) and having played a small role in their lives, must reconnect with them and himself – all the while learning about what his wife has been doing behind his back.

For those who like their films with a degree of intelligence and humour, the absence of Alexander Payne from screens has no doubt been something of a disappointment – the writer/director managing to expertly mine the ennui of the middle-aged

American man in the likes of *Sideways* and *About Schmidt*.

The Descendants then, on the surface, appears to be very much in the Payne milieu, and as you would expect, he delivers a mesmerising film that draws excellent performances from its cast.

He manages to deliver an emotional piece of work that doesn't push the schmaltzy buttons too much (a fault of much of the awards season fare thus far).

The subject matter could have seen Payne simply recycle the notes of his previous works given how they cleave so close to his output.

However, by adapting from the source novel, Payne, who co-wrote the script along with Nat Faxon and Jim Rash, takes his eye for these types of characters and introduces new elements that enrich the film.

While there are moments of comedy, the film is more dramatic than you would expect.

The story of a man wrestling with a life-changing decision, along with upheaval in his personal life, have moments of realistic comedy, but, tempered by the naturalistic nature of the story, there are no easy answers for any of the

Toy and train sale is a great day out

THE first toy and train collectors' show of the new year in Barry takes place on Sunday, February 5, at Barry Leisure Centre in Greenwood Street, from 10.30am to 3pm.

Top traders from all over Wales, as well as many from across the bridge, attend the Barry show and it has rapidly become established as a major event in south Wales.

It also complements the quarterly Cardiff toy and train sale held at Penarth Leisure Centre

at Cogan, which is operated by the same organisers.

The venue is well-known as a clean, warm and well-lit centre, with plenty of parking available and easy access.

A local caterer also operates within the show throughout the day, and offers a wide range of refreshments at reasonable prices.

Organiser Chris Dyer said: 'Barry has come around again and all the traders and the patrons are looking forward to another great day out.'

--DON'T MISS THE... **BARRY Nr. CARDIFF TOY & TRAIN SALE**

SUNDAY, 5th FEBRUARY, 2012
10.30am - 3.00pm

Barry Leisure Centre, Greenwood Street, Barry, Nr Cardiff, South Wales CF63 4RU

BUY ★★ SELL ★★ EXCHANGE

75 Tables, Many top dealers in Dinky Toys, Corgi Toys, Matchbox, Britains, EFE, Lledo, Hornby, Bachmann, Lima, etc, and much, much more

Admission £1.65 - Child/DAP £1.25

Enquiries: 01643 702757 or 07966 694579

E-Mail: dyer@minehead46.freereserve.co.uk

Website: chrisdyerfairst.co.uk

SCREEN TALK



by
GARETH JAMIESON

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

characters, no Hollywood-style ways out.

Instead, the first person narrative plays it straight, and is all the better for it; Payne and co's screenplay balancing well.

His direction is superb as well, the beauty of Hawaii acting as a gorgeous backdrop to the familial strife that takes place, while Payne puts the concerns of the story first and foremost, the camera lingering on the characters and their responses rather than opting for fast cuts and clever editing.

Anchoring it all is an absolutely outstanding turn from George Clooney, who has rightly received acclaim for his performance.

While his best performances have often relied on his charm in tandem with strong acting (*Out Of Sight*, *Michael Clayton*) here Clooney reins in the charm – instead delivering a straight turn, with an element of comedy, that ticks all the boxes.

It is possibly the actor's most naked turn (not literally, I'm afraid, ladies) and watching Clooney on such fine form is truly a

joy to watch.

Amidst the acclaim Clooney has received, the other performances in the film seem to have gone unfairly unnoticed.

Woodley and Miller are both incredibly good as Clooney's two daughters, the former a troubled teen failing to connect to an absent father, while the latter manages to inject humour as an old-beyond-her-years youngster that provides much laughter.

Throw in Nick Krause as the default comedy character Sid, a role expertly delivered by the actor who manages to throw in some pathos to what is an otherwise played-for-faughs character.

Touching smaller roles for Bear Bridges, the under-rated Judy Greer (showing her skills in an unfamiliar straight performance) and Robert Forster, leaves a cast who manage not to put a foot wrong throughout.

While the story hardly reinvents the wheel, it is delivered with such class and skill that you don't mind.

The return of Alexander Payne to the director's chair, and a wonderful performance by George Clooney are enough to satiate the appetite, as *The Descendants* makes for a truly superb viewing experience.

VERDICT – The first of the 'awards season' films to really deliver, *The Descendants* is an excellent film that captivates and amuses with no small degree of intelligence. Alexander Payne's return is one of form, while the performance he coaxes out of George Clooney sees the actor stripped of his charm but resulting in the finest performance of his career; all in all a huge success! Highly recommended.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Sideways* (2004), *About Schmidt* (2002).

Blood donor sessions

THE Welsh Blood Service will be holding donor sessions in the area as follows:

February 7: Bedwas Hall, Memorial Hall, Gladstone Road, Barry, 10am - 6pm.

February 13-14: Llanwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road, Llanwit Major, 10am - 6pm.

February 17: Mobile Donation Clinic, Tesco Stores, Castle Street, Maesteg, 10.45am - 1.45pm and 3.15pm - 6.30pm.

Brackla Community Centre, The Triangle, Brackla, 10am - 6pm.

To view a comprehensive list of all blood donation sessions, please visit www.welshblood.org.uk or call 0800 252266.

Prizes to be won for school news projects!

PRODUCING a newspaper as a school project can be one of the best ways to develop a range of knowledge and skills in a fun way – and local secondary schools are among those being

offered prizes and the opportunity for local and national recognition to do just that.

The Glamorgan GEM is offering to work with a local school entering the competition by featuring the project in our

dancing, acting – or backstage work – to meet and greet on February 6 at 7pm. Contact Mike Peters on 01446 799100.

Mayor's coffee

VALEPLUS, the Vale-based charity that provides lifelong learning and leisure opportunities for people with a learning disability, is holding a coffee morning on Tuesday, February 7, between 10.30am and 12 noon.

It will be hosted by Coun John Clifford, Mayor of the Vale, in the Corporate Suite of the Civic Offices at Holton Road, Barry.

Tickets cost £1.50. There will be stalls including cakes, plants, books and NOVA, as well as a mystery prize game and a raffle. All are welcome.

national competition.

Chairman of the awards, Ian Locks, said: "The awards, now in their second year, are designed to encourage development of communication, writing and IT skills, provide experience of management and team work – and to encourage respect for copyright and a better understanding of the sustainability of paper products."

Prize money of £4,500 is on offer to the main winners and all shortlisted schools will be invited to an awards ceremony at Stationers' Hall (next to St Paul's Cathedral in London) on Monday, June 25, to receive their awards or certificates.

Entries must be submitted by the end of March 2012, to qualify for judging in the

Festival seeks feedback from local traders

C O W B R I D G E

Food and Drink Festival

has already kicked off the organising of this year's festival and, as usual, are keen for feedback and suggestions from businesses in the town.

Together with the Vale Council, the committee has compiled a questionnaire specifically targeting local businesses, to collate their views of the weekend and (hopefully) respond, to make this an even more beneficial weekend for town traders.

"They will need to attend The Celtic Community Hall, Celtic Way, Rhosneigr on Saturday, February 4, 11.30am-12.30pm to audition."

Anyone interested can contact Nerissa on 01446 774449, valedanceandhealth@yoururbiz.info, or via www.valeschoolofdanceandhealth.co.uk.

Music to your ears... this Valentine's Day

Tuesday 14th February - Guitarist 7.30-1pm

We have maintained our popular à la carte menu and wish to introduce aspiring young classical

guitarist LUC MORRIS, who will be enhancing the perfect ambience for Valentine diners.

Private Parties Negotiable

Unit 1, Britannia House

Penny Lane, COWBRIDGE

(Situated behind Town Hall Car Park)

- Telephone orders welcome ~

T: 01446 771668 F: 01446 773539

Sun to Thurs 12 - 2.30 - 5.00 - 10.30

Fri to Sat: 12 - 2.30 - 5.00 - 11.00

www.riverview668.co.uk

Chance for young dancers to mingle with Strictly stars

A LOCAL school of dance is celebrating, after being asked to provide young dancers for a touring show featuring professional dancers from Strictly Come Dancing.

Nerissa Usherwood, who runs the Vale School Of Dance, told The GEM: "We have been asked to perform with some of the BBC's Strictly Come Dancing professionals in an 'Evening with The Stars Of Strictly' at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, on Wednesday, April 18.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to perform on stage with professionals.

Dancers between 9 & 23 years

Audition to be held at

The Celtic Community

Centre, Rhosneigr

Saturday, February 4th 11.30am

THIS IS TO PERFORM WITH

THE PROFESSIONALS FROM

BBC's STRICTLY COME DANCING

at The Grand Pavilion

Porthcawl

Wednesday, April 18th

FURTHER DETAILS: 01446 774449

E-mail: valedanceandhealth@yoururbiz.info

Web: www.valeschoolofdanceandhealth.co.uk



SIX NATIONS RUGBY

2012 FIXTURES



ALL SET FOR THE BIG KICK-OFF! SEE PREVIEW ON BACK PAGE

Welsh rugby fans eagerly looking forward to the start of the Six Nations tournament this weekend, will have to wait until tomorrow for the starting line-up against Ireland in Dublin on Sunday.

Head coach Warren Gatland has delayed the announcement, in the hope that key injured trio Rhys Priestland, Jamie Roberts and Dan Lydiate, will be able to take the field for a crunch clash that both teams will be desperate to win – as they launch their bid for the 2012 title. (See back page)



PICTURES by HUW EVANS AGENCY

INJURY CONCERN

RIGHT: Jamie Roberts (on left) and Rhys Priestland sit out squad training, but they are being given every opportunity by Warren Gatland to reach match fitness and line up against Ireland on Sunday.



ABOVE: In the blue bibs, Sam Warburton (left) and Toby Faletau will be key figures in the crucial breakdown battle against the street-wise Irish pack.

AJM Embroidery Ltd.
Embroidery & T-Shirt Printing
Leisure, Sport,
Industrial,
Hen and Stag
Clothing
Mobile: 07870 377547
07969 574294
07969 723732
ajmembrodery
@yahoo.com

THE PARK
Park Crescent, Barry
Good Luck Wales!
ALL RUGBY MATCHES SHOWN
LIVE - COME ALONG AND JOIN
THE ATMOSPHERE!
Skittle Alley • Darts • Sky Sports
and ESPN • Quality Ales
Tel: 01446 735589

**VALE OF
GLAMORGAN INN**
Superb home-cooked food
at sensible prices!

♦ REAL ALES ♦ REAL FOOD
♦ REAL FIRES

SIX NATIONS



RUGBY LIVE!

53 High Street, COWBRIDGE
Tel. (01446) 772252

Scarlets

12 BROAD STREET,
BARRY
TEL. 07946 960610

OPEN 5.00pm - 12 midnight Wednesday & Thursday
5.00pm - 1.00am Friday & Saturday

RBS Six Nations Rugby
All matches shown - sandwiches provided
Brand New 72" Screen

VALENTINE'S

Tuesday, 14th February
Live Music and Tapas
Come along and enjoy the evening
Enjoy beers, wines and spirits in a comfortable,
contemporary, relaxing bar.



The Borough Arms

**Six Nations Rugby
& Football shown live
on Multi Screens**
**£2 a pint on selected drinks
during match time.**

Free light refreshments at half time
during Welsh games
plus a chance to win a gallon of ale
during all Six Nations matches

LIVE FOR FEBRUARY

Friday February 3rd
'VALE OF JAM-MORGAN'

Live Acoustic
Friday February 10th
MATTHEW JACKSON

Live Acoustic
Saturday February 11th
'617' Local Band

Friday February 17th
LLOYD JOHN

Live Acoustic
Friday, 24th February
TAYLOR JONES

Venue available for Parties
Buffets & Hot Meals
Resident DJ & Karaoke Available
Pool Table & Juke Box

72 High Street, Barry
Tel. 01446 737060

King William IV

(The Billy) Cadoxton, Barry

Sunday 5th February

SIX NATIONS RUGBY

Complementary Curry & Rice
for Welsh Games

Saturday 4th February

LYNETTE HILL

Modern Female Vocalist

Saturday 11th February

ALI DELGADO

Award Winning Latino Female Vocalist

Saturday 18th February

PADDLED CELL

Barry Rock/Blues Band

Saturday 25th February

THEM DEAD BEATS

Barry Punk 'n' Blues Band

01446 401248

Follow us on Facebook The King William

18 Old Port Road, Wenvoe, Cardiff,
South Glamorgan CF5 6AN
Tel 02920 591129
Web - wenvoearms.co.uk

Massive Savings in the DFS Sale

NEW STORE NOW OPEN - Glamorgan Vale Retail Park, Llantrisant.

Today and this week

Everything in the biggest ever DFS Sale is reduced in price with **Massive Savings** on a huge choice of the latest designs.

Don't wait a moment longer to save a fortune on your new sofa at DFS.



Sale Price
£899
 After sale price £1199
SAVE £899



The Jupiter corner sofa.

£18.72 a month
 no deposit, no interest ever

No deposit with 4 years interest free credit, 48 equal monthly payments. Or pay nothing for the first year then 36 equal monthly payments of £94.97, 0% APR. Total £899.

0%
APR
REPRESENTATIVE

4 years interest
free credit with
nothing to pay
for the first year

think sofas, think **dfs**

Llantrisant 01443 449593 NEW STORE
 Glamorgan Vale Retail Park, CF72 8RP

Opening Hours: Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm, Sat 9am to 6pm, Sun 11am to 5pm.

Save Time - Order Direct at www.dfs.co.uk or call Free on 0800 110 5000 24 hours a day 7 days a week

Credit subject to acceptance. Credit is provided by external finance companies as determined by DFS. 4 years free credit from date of order. Delivery charges apply. After-sale price applies from 20th February. Guaranteed lowest Winter Sale price means sale products will not be sold at a lower price during the DFS Winter Sale when ordered in-store or online. Mobile charges may apply when calling 0800 110 5000. DFS is a division of DFS Trading Ltd. Registered in England and Wales No. 01739950. Redhouse Interchange, Doncaster, DH6 7HA.

MOVING ON

A TOUGH economic climate forces people to make some difficult lifestyle decisions – and no decision causes more tension than where to live.

For years, the dream has been to move onwards and upwards – upgrading your property until you eventually arrive at your dream home.



High Quality
Building & Renovation
Services

Vale of Glamorgan Built-in Quality Awards Proud Winners 2011 'New Dwellings' category with their Golyga Colwinston project

- New Build • Barn Conversions
- All types of building work and maintenance

Specialising in BREEAM standard

Glas Fryn, Hendre Lane, Coity, Bridgend CF35 6RB.
Tel/Fax: 01656 768444
Mobile: 07814 779587
Email: enquiries@ajbanksbuilders.co.uk
NHBC Registered House Builder - Registration No. 50375



That dream home might come in many forms. It could be a cottage in the country, a solid four-bedroom detached in a nice part of town, a penthouse apartment, or a rambling old property that you will transform into an elegant town house!

However, when times are tough, those dreams sometimes have to be put on hold for a few years, and it is time to take stock instead.

However, rather than dwelling on the negatives, this temporary pause can be a great chance to look at your present living space and perhaps give it a fresh look.

After all, well thought-out home improvements will give a twofold benefit – the sense of wellbeing induced by having that work done, and the knowledge that, when you do decide to move on, your efforts will be reflected in the selling price of your home.

GUY FORD QUALITY PLASTERING SERVICE

No job too small
FREE QUOTES
07812093098

NH PAINTING & DECORATING SERVICES
Exterior/Interior. Free Quotes.
Clean tidy worker.
All insurance work.
Carpet Cleaning available.
FULLY INSURED
**01446 772702
07505 979078**
Weekend calls welcome
www.nhdecorating.co.uk

Experts have always argued that a good extension on a home will increase the value of it, and there are so many reasons nowadays for taking this step.

Families have to face the fact that it is not so easy for young people to get on the housing ladder, so children who in the past would have moved out as soon as they found their first job are now staying home longer while they save for a deposit.

A well-planned extension can give parents and children – well, young adults really – more space so that the family doesn't feel cramped and confined.

Necessary maintenance

It makes for a more relaxed living environment and, of course, there is the financial benefit to come, if and when the house is sold.

Of course, not every house or flat is suitable for an extension, but a great deal can be done in

terms of redecoration and renovation.

It is a chance to do all that necessary maintenance, and at the same time indulge your creative side.

A new colour scheme, or new wallpaper and carpets can upgrade a room, making you feel good at the same time.

Perhaps when you moved in you felt that there were too many small rooms? This could be the chance to knock two into one and make a really expansive living space.

If your living room is looking good, perhaps it is the kitchen that is in need of a makeover?

Once again, living and cooking in a more modern kitchen can make life seem much easier. Again, it will pay off by increasing the value of your property – and make the cook in your family very happy!

No matter where you live, it is a rare homeowner who has no issues with his/her property.

There is always something that carries on niggling away because it just isn't right.

CARDIFF LOCK & SAFE COMPANY LTD

Suppliers of: • Chubb • Securitek
• SMP under floor, wall & freestanding safes
EXTENSIVE SAFE SHOWROOM
TELEPHONE: 029 2049 9358 OR 029 2049 4992
FAX: 029 2048 3558 www.cardifflocksmiths.com
E-Mail: info@cardifflocksmiths.com

39 CLIFTON STREET, ROATH, CARDIFF CF24 1LR

Are you planning Property Maintenance for 2012?

- General Repairs & Building Work
- Kitchen & Bathroom Installation
- Plumbing • Tiling • Carpentry • Guttering
- Burst pipe callout from £40



No Job Too Small!
Freephone: 0800 612 2806 Mobile: 07927 652 620
Email: nial@fernpropertydevelopment.com
www.fernpropertydevelopment.com

FREE QUOTES



Wayne Williams

- Stonemason/ Stonework
- Traditional Brickwork
- Individually Styled Conservatories
- Specialists in Extensions

07974 110396 or 01656 652558

Underfloor Heating?

Contact the Experts at
Heating & Plumbing Warehouse
Best Prices Guaranteed

**Tel: 02920 461 964 or
07702 748 730**
www.hpwarehouse.co.uk



GARDEN & LANDSCAPING SERVICES
Award Winning
Driveway & Paving Specialists



See our website for our online portfolio of our work

All Work Fully Guaranteed
Free Quotations

LOGS FOR SALE

- Block-paving and Patios
- Fencing and Gates
- Decking and Balconies
- Fonds & Water Features
- Brickwork and Stone Walling
- Garden Design



We are both Marshalls and Natural Paving Approved Driveway and Paving Installers



Tel: 01446 710736
Mobile: 07750 166480
Website: www.gardenandlandscapeservices.co.uk
Email: info@gardenandlandscapeservices.co.uk

FIVE STAR ROOFING & BUILDING

- Slating • Tiling • Flat Roofing, including Single Ply, Felt and Fibreglass systems
- Natural slate specialist
- Chimney stacks rebuilt and removed
- Lead work • Loft Conversions
- Insurance work • 24 hour call out

**CALL STEVE PHILPOT on 01443 842779,
07798 637119 or 02920 621619
bethanphilpot@btinternet.com**

D.B. FRANCIS Ltd

GAS MAINTENANCE & GAS SERVICE ENGINEERS

www.dbfrancis.co.uk



- All Gas and Oil Appliances Serviced
- Gas and Oil Central Heating Installation
- Boiler Up-grades
- Heating Controls Up-dated
- Individually designed systems to customers specification
- Two months guarantee
- Good after-sales service and maintenance

FREPHONE 0800 298 1045

Unit 21c Vale Business Park, Llandow, CF71 7PF
Tel: 01446 771112 Fax: 01446 771175



GRAB iT PLANT HIRE LTD

318 VALE ENTERPRISE CENTRE, HAYES RD, SULLY

GROUNDWORK CONTRACTORS

- All Size Plant with Drivers for Hire
- Reasonable Prices

GRAB HIRE SERVICE

- Waste Disposal
- Site Clearance
- Aggregate Deliveries



01446 700535
www.grabitplanthireltd.co.uk

IMPROVING?

It might be the layout of the garden, the state of the bathroom, a lack of natural light in one room – it might even be something that no one else notices.

There won't be a better time to address these issues, and a successful solution to the problem can give a great deal of satisfaction.

Times are tough and money is tight – and sometimes you have to acknowledge that the grand design may have to be put on hold for a time.

However, that is no reason to sit back and do nothing. Whether you rely on an expert, or trust your own judgement, this could be the perfect time to improve your living space.

Life is full of stresses and strains, and home improvements can make a real difference to you and your family.

On these pages, The GEM has brought together a wide range of businesses – all local, and with the expertise to make your dreams a reality.

Standing still is rarely a good thing. You may be staying put for a few years, but that doesn't mean you can't move forward!



SES Electrical

- Rewires
 - Extra Sockets & Lighting
 - Smoke Alarms
 - Fuseboard Changes
 - Earthing
 - Inspection & Testing
 - Landlord Certificates
 - Free Estimates
- 01446 739473
07980 908003



Call Eileen on

01446 774484
to get the best results from YOUR advertising

D.P. BUILDING SERVICES

- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Extensions
- Plastering
- Carpentry
- Joinery
- Roofing
- Brickwork
- Conservatories

NO JOB TOO SMALL
Tel: 01446 711968
or 07831 655429



JP PROPERTY

Jonathan David Building Contractors

Proud to be 'Commended' at the Vale of Glamorgan Built-In Quality Awards.
New dwelling/Home conversion category
for their transformation of Barn 2, Redfarm, Llangan.

• Barn Conversions • New Build • Extensions
25 years of Excellence...

Tel: 07803 504081

Brook Cottage, Treoes, Vale of Glamorgan CF35 5DH

RIBA Chartered Architect

Don Mitchell Associates

Award winning Architecture
Traditional and contemporary design
Historic and Listed Buildings
From planning to completion

01446 771218
Top floor, 39 High Street, COWBRIDGE
donaldmitchell@btconnect.com



Have you
planned
your 2012
Marketing
yet?

Building & Extension Specialists

- Extensions
 - Bathrooms
 - Fitted Kitchens
 - Garage Conversions
 - PVC Gutters & Facias
- Time Served Tradesmen
100% Guaranteed

FREE QUOTES

L.S.Construction
Tel: 07788455656 / 01446 719500

Why not give
**The
GEM**
a call and
let us help
you to
get the
best results!

STEVE LEE BUILDING CONTRACTOR

Former Award Winners 2003 and 2008
Accredited 'Highly Recommended' 2009

- New Builds
- Barn Conversions
- Extensions
- Refurbishments

Tel. Llantwit Major 01446 793141

CJT Heating

Installer of traditional and contemporary multi-fuel and wood burning stoves and fires.
Free estimates/advice.
Cenydd J Thomas
M: 07974 728717
HETAS registered installer
cjtheating@talktalk.net

GARAGE DOOR SERVICES
The garage door specialists

24hr Emergency Call Out

All types of doors supplied, fitted and repaired.
Over 15 years experience.

07783 703366 / 01446 743181
www.gdsdoors.co.uk

VALE PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES

- Boiler Installations
 - Powerflushing Specialist
 - Bathroom Installations
 - Gas Safety Certificates
 - Vaillant Boiler Specialist
 - Domestic Plumbing
 - Annual Boiler Servicing
- garethwjenkins@hotmail.co.uk

Tel. 07929 168006 - 07966 273839

FREE Estimates

526203
Safe Register

WRIGHT BUILDING & PLASTICS LTD

- ◆ Extensions
- ◆ Renovations
- ◆ All Electrical Work

PV Solar Systems and Installers

- MCS accreditation
- Full Roof Surveys
- Grants and feeding tariffs

Free estimates and fully insured

For all your Local Building needs

**Tel. 01446 751346
Mob. 07990 595200
07747 634204**



REPLACEMENT DOOR & WORKTOP SPECIALISTS

FREE FITTING

limited offer

Before



After



A family business with vast experience in the replacement door and worktop market. Everything you require from the doors, to worktops and new appliances and sinks

DOOR DOCTOR

01446 688018 • 01656 360027

www.door-doctor.co.uk

J.A. Woodwork Kitchens/Bedrooms General Cabinet Making
Established 30 years

Craftsmanship v Cost Cutting - No Contest!

Tel. 01446 792695 • www.jawoodwork.net
Sutton Spring Road, Llandow Trading Estate, Cowbridge. CF71 7PB





In Business Update



Networking – Make it work for you today!

VWBN'S first speaker Marianne Pettifor, with 25 years' networking experience, will talk about how networking is changing.

She will address 'free of charge' and 'e' marketing as options for raising the profile of your business and gaining new business.

Come along and get some great tips from someone who has "been there" through thick and thin!

Marianne will also answer questions. So, put your thinking caps on and join us on Wednesday, February 15, at Bar 44, Cowbridge at 6.30pm; £10 non members, £5 members.

Please contact Rebecca to book;
members@vwn.org.uk

Vale Women's Business Network

NETWORKING:
Make it work for you today with free of charge marketing.

Wed 15th February 2012
At Bar 44, Cowbridge 6.30 – 9 pm

Guests and non-members are most welcome!
(Guest membership for this event is £10)

Please email members@vwn.org.uk to book
www.vwn.org.uk

Mediator can help families in a crisis

FAIRY Mediation is a voluntary process by which couples negotiate face-to-face about the arrangements for their future, with the help of a neutral third party, a mediator.

Passmores Solicitors are trained in family mediation and can offer services specifically to assist couples (married or unmarried) who are in, or have been, through the process of separation or divorce and children who are impacted by the process.

Passmores are able to help couples to reach joint decisions about issues associated with their separation, be it children, finance, or property.

Please call us on 01446 721000 or email mail@passmores.com or fax on 01446 746949 for more information.

PASSMORES
are trained in Family Mediation

Specialising in:

- Services to assist couples
- Separation/Divorce
- Children/Finance/Property

For more information please call us on:

01446 721000

or by email: mail@passmores.com.

21 Tynewydd Road,
Barry, CF62 8HB

Welcome to Balmoral Motorhome Hire!

Balmoral Motorhomes
Motorhomes For Hire in Bridgend!
From £595 per week
4 and 6 berths available
Available from March 2012.
Bookings being taken now!
Motorhomes for sale from £9995
Caravans from £9995
visit website for current stock list!
www.balmoralmotorhomes.co.uk
WE BUY MOTORHOMES and CARAVANS - finance cleared

Quality furniture venture a change of direction for couple

HUSBAND and wife team, Gareth and Nicky Punter, spotted a gap in the market for quality furniture in top-notch materials such as pine and oak, and, above all, a personal service.

Their new enterprise, Home Comforts Furniture Warehouse, opened on February 1 and is based in the Vale, equidistant from Cowbridge and Bridgend.

Gareth, who previously worked for a UK-wide furniture company as a sales and marketing manager, and who is also a joiner by trade, knows a thing or two about bespoke furniture.

"Not everyone wants the impersonal, flat-pack experience," he explained. "Our aim is to provide a knowledgeable service for our customers. We'll go the extra mile and measure up for the customer at home to ensure the piece they want is suitable."

"In my experience, many stores sell low-calibre furniture at high prices. Ours is beautifully made, all the pine being made to order and finished by hand by British craftsmen."

"The oak is all solid and of the highest quality, fantastic to look at and keenly priced. We have divided the

warehouse up into room sets so people can get a feel for how it will look in situ.

"We also have a range of beautiful accessories, so our customers can recreate the look at home, without needing to shop elsewhere."

The Parlance quality accessories are replenished on a regular basis and updated to run with current trends.

Gareth and Nicky, a former NHS training manager, have many years' experience in the furniture trade between them, and are keen to point out that their new enterprise plugs the gaps left by other businesses.

Richard, the store manager, is keen to get the business up and running and is enthusiastic about the future:

"The furniture is beautiful, well made and total quality," he said.

In addition to private homes, their furniture and accessories would suit boutique and country house hotels, high-quality holiday lets, and landlords wanting to let furnished properties in the executive market.

Home Comforts Furniture Warehouse, Unit 4b, West Winds Business Park, Llangan, Vale of Glamorgan CF35 5DR. Tel: 01656 861120; please visit our website: www.homecomfortswf.co.uk

HOME COMFORTS
Quality British made pine and oak furniture ...
NOW OPEN
FREE Delivery within 25 miles
Traditionally made, fully assembled furniture
FREE Parking
Complimentary Coffee

TOP QUALITY ACCESSORIES
PARLANE INTERNATIONAL

4a WEST WINDS BUSINESS PARK, LLANGAN COWBRIDGE CF35 5DR Tel: 01656 861120 www.homecomfortswf.co.uk (Access Imminent)

WOULD you like to take your home comforts on holiday with you? Go where you and your family want to go – no set meal times or itinerary? Get up and go when you want, where you want!

Balmoral Motorhomes, based in Bridgend, mid-way between Cardiff and Swansea, offers a hire service for luxury motorhomes. Find us just off junction 35 of the M4.

A spokesman explained: "We only use new 2012 registered camper vans. We have four or six berth motorhomes now available for that special holiday. They are fully equipped and insured for drivers over 25 years old, complete with radio/CD, and flat screen TV/DVD player."

For our new 'hire' facility, or for new and used motorhomes or caravans for sale, call 01656 858289 – or visit us alongside Nathaniel Car Sales, Bridgend Industrial Estate, CF31 3SA.

Bridgend law firm achieves Lexcel Quality Standard



The Lexcel certificate is handed over by Wayne Williams of cpm21.

DPLAW LTD (David Prosser & Co), the well-known Bridgend law firm, were presented with the Law Society Lexcel

Quality Standard recently.

To achieve the standard, a legal practice must undergo a rigorous check by an independent auditing organisation against the Lexcel Quality Standard.



"Achieving Lexcel accreditation reinforces our commitment to providing high-quality legal services tailored to client needs," said Diana Bishop, practice manager.

"We have held a Specialist Quality Mark for quite some time, which is the Legal Services Commission quality standard, but this only applied to our publicly-funded departments.

"Lexcel applies to all areas of the practice and demonstrates our continued focus – striving for excellent customer service at highly competitive fees," Simon Thomas, director, commented.

Massive clearance at Full Independence

FULL INDEPENDENCE currently has

a massive stock clearance sale, with all in-stock scooters, stairlifts, Rise

n Recline chairs and daily living aids all reduced by up to 70 per cent.

We are also offering further discounts on wheelchairs and walkers, so why pop into our spacious showroom, where you can try all our products with no obligation?

We are also taking bookings on all garden adaptions and if you book your garden adaptation with us you can receive a £200 instore gift voucher (terms and conditions apply).

On Saturday, February 4, we will give the first 15 customers a free folding walking stick with no minimum spend.

We look forward to seeing you at one of the most accessible showrooms in Wales, soon.

Full Independence Ltd

WE REPAIR WITH CARE

Easy Bathing Specialists
Walk In - Sit Down - Relax

- Scooters
- Stairlifts
- Recliner Chairs & Walkers
- Bathlifts • Lifting Aids etc
- Plus:
- Full Property Maintenance
- Access Solutions
- Landscaping & Design

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM
Units 1 & 2 Adenfield Way,
Rhoose, VoG, CF62 3EA



CALL 01446 711555

SALE NOW ON

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

Continental photographers Format 35 extend their client base

CONTINENTAL wedding photographers, Format 35, have now extended their client base into the Vale and surrounding areas.

Young award-winning photographer, Miro Cik, offers professional service for weddings, portraits and commercial work.

Please contact Miro to discuss your requirements in the comfort of your own home.

To ensure that your occasion is memorable for all the right reasons, call Miro on 07432 594 820.

Please visit the website www.format35.co.uk to sample the quality of his work and for an indication of his price structure.



www.format35.co.uk
tel: 07432 594 820

Councillor replies

'YOU HAVE TO BE THERE TO REMEMBER IT!'

COUN Katherine Kemp has recently claimed that she was surprised at the Labour Party pledge to review and reinstate a mobile library service.

Labour Members put a motion to a Vale Council meeting on September 28, 2010, to reinstate the mobile library service, but it was defeated by the ruling Conservative group.

She also claims that I did not object to such a proposed cut when I was on the budget working group at the time.

Actually, I and others did question the proposed cuts to the mobile library and the proposed closure of village libraries, including Wenvoe, Sully and St Athan.

We requested more detailed information on the numbers of people using them, and what effect such cuts would have on the services.

That was supposed to be reported back to the group, but it was not. Therefore, at one

of the final meetings, the group recommended the deferral of those and other cuts – in order to obtain further information – as none had been supplied.

Coun Kemp did not recall it, because she was not at that meeting!

Also, when this budget working group reported back to the Corporate Resources Scrutiny no further details were supplied.

This time, the proposed savings were simply listed as a 'Review of Library Provision and Structure', without clarifying what was being proposed.

The cut to the mobile library was subsequently made by the Conservative cabinet.

There are no surprises, just facts.

Coun Neil Moore, Barry
(Leader of the Labour group on the Vale County Borough Council)

Firefighters' Atlantic rowing marathon takes total of 46 days

TWO south Wales firefighters, who aim to raise tens of thousands of pounds for a host of charities, completed their Atlantic rowing marathon in 45 days, 19 hours and 21 minutes.

John Haskell and Jamie Windsor travelled 2,615 nautical miles from the Canary Isles to Barbados, and the money raised will go to Help for Heroes, Breast Cancer Care, The Firefighters Charity and WRVS.

The duo rowed the entire distance totally unsupported in a 'Woodvale Pairs' class boat that was designed specifically for the race

but measures a mere 23 feet long by 6 feet wide.

Huw Jakeway, the acting chief fire officer of South Wales Fire and Rescue Service said: "This was an incredible and gruelling challenge that has raised a lot of money for some very worth while charities."

Coun Anthony Ernest added: "On behalf of the whole of South Wales Fire and Rescue Service and South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority, we would like to say how proud we are of John and Jamie – and big congratulations to them both on an outstanding achievement."

Donations can still be made to the causes via the venture's website at www.atlanticdash.com.

WHAT'S ON in brief

Friends draw up agenda

THE next meeting of Barry&Vale Friends of the Earth will be on Tuesday, February 7, in the Castle Hotel, Jewel Street, Barry.

On the agenda will be a de-briefing from those members who are to meet with Alun Cairns MP on February 3.

Members will want to know the present position on incinerators/Project Gwydd and Government subsidies for burning waste.

Rapid development at Rhoose Point and the formation of a new group in Rhoose will also be discussed.

Barry&Vale FoE will be supporting those opposing the White Farm development, at the appeal stage and we are working with the Welsh Assembly in giving evidence to their study of waste issues and incinerators.

Members will be asked to consider a Barry&Vale FoE stall at this year's National Eisteddfod in Llandow. KS

Social evening

BRIDGEND County Mayor, Coun Christopher Michaelides, invites the public to a "social evening with a differ-

Vale MP's surgeries

THE Vale MP, Alun Cairns, will be holding local surgeries for advice and assistance on Friday, February 10, at the following locations: 9.30am–11am at Tesco, Stirling Road, Barry; 12.30pm–2pm at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road; 3pm–4.30pm, The Robing Room, Cowbridge Town Hall, Cowbridge.

Anyone in the Vale is welcome to attend, but it is advisable to call 01446 403814, to make an appointment.

If Pleasure Park is developed it gives hope that cinema will return to town

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

"I can't see a cinema being located at the Waterfront – there's no space available."

Although there are large buildings available in the town – both the old magistrates court and the Pump House are on the open market – Mr Armstrong explained that multiplex cinema groups favoured building from scratch and independent cinema companies favoured taking over former 'big screen' venues.

He insisted: "If any cinema operator is interested in moving into the area, the Vale Council has to engage with them so they know there's a local commitment."

CHARITY BOUTIQUE

DOGS Trust Bridgend has opened its first charity boutique in Wales at 62 Eastgate, Cowbridge.

"It is open every day except Sundays, from 9.30am to 4.30pm; pop down and grab a bargain and help raise pounds for hounds!" a spokeswoman urges.

cation."

Mr Sutton said he believed that was because other leisure facilities such as bowling might be considered, and he hoped that a smaller complex than six screens would still find favour with a multiplex company.

It is almost four years since Barry lost big screen film entertainment at the Theatre Royal.

LOCAL PACT meetings

BARUC neighbourhood officers will be holding surgeries on Sunday, February 5 at Amherst Crescent between 2pm and 4pm and then at Marine Drive between 4.30pm and 6.30pm.

ST.ATHAN Pact, February 5, at The Gathering Place at 2pm.

LLANDOUGH Pact, Llandough War Memorial Hall, February 6 at 7.30pm.

BUTTRILLS Pact at 6.30pm on Thursday, February 9 at the Philip John Community Room, Barry Library, Tynewydd Road.

LLANDOW/EWENNY Pact, February 15 at Ewenny Village Hall at 7pm.

C S Boxall Ltd

C.S. Boxall is a family business established since 1990

Over 30 years experience in the plumbing and heating industry.

MULTI FUEL STOVES



VISIT OUR SHOWROOM

For all your renewable energy requirements. Come and take a look at our working renewable energy centre and learn more about how to source energy for your home.

Up to 7 years warranty on Worcester boilers, parts and labour

- Air to air heat pump
- Solar ground source heat pump
- Solar water heating panels
- Wood burners ...
- multi-fuel, bio mass, wood, Gasification systems.

Serving both the commercial and domestic market.
All work guaranteed - Finance Available.

TOOL & PLANT HIRE

Stockists of Draper Tools and Plant Hire.



COUNTER SERVICE



Office 01446 772444

Shop 01446 772292

www.csboxall.co.uk

OPEN:
8.00am
'til 5.00pm

Suppliers of ...



Gas Safe Installers

198051

FREE LOCAL CALOR GAS DELIVERY & FREE SAFETY CHECK
39F Vale Business Park, Llandow, Nr Cowbridge, CF71 7PF



The GEM is proud to be an official partner of the 2012 National Eisteddfod in the Vale of Glamorgan

Mae'r GEM yn falch o fod yn un o bartneriaid swyddogol
Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg, 2012

Caravans wanted, for the Eisteddfod!

Appeal for caravans
DURING the National Eisteddfod, it is estimated that 150,000 people will visit the Festival site. Although we hope that many local people will attend thousands will come from further afield and will be looking for accommodation in the area – in hotels, guest houses, bed and breakfast and also in private accommodation.

Could you help the Eisteddfod in this way

Every year, hundreds

of caravanners will also set up home on the Eisteddfod's caravan site, which will be situated next to the Eisteddfod Festival site at Llandow on the outskirts of Cowbridge. Some will bring their own caravans, while others will be looking for caravans to rent for the week.

We have already received numerous requests for caravans from people wishing to stay on the caravan site, but do not have their own caravans to bring. Do you have a touring caravan you could rent to these Eisteddfod visitors for the week?

The benefits of having a stall at the Eisteddfod last for much longer than the week itself, with

and make some money at the same time? If so, please contact the Eisteddfod Office on 02920 763 777 sioned@eisteddfod.org.uk

Hire a trade stand

OVER a period of eight days, the 35-acre 'Maes' is home to over 300 stands – shops, businesses, artists, craftspeople, charities, local and national organisations and many more that choose to use the Eisteddfod as their ultimate pop up shop.

The benefits of having a stall at the Eisteddfod last for much longer than the week itself, with

numerous stallholders telling us of the commissions and orders they have received in the months and even years following their visit to an Eisteddfod.

The application forms for hiring a stand at this year's Eisteddfod are now available on the Eisteddfod web site. For further details email Eira Bowen, eira@eisteddfod.org.uk or phone for a chat on 02920 763 777.

Eira will be more than happy to assist you with any queries you may have. This is the first time since 1968 that this great national event will visit the Vale so don't miss out on the opportunity to be part of it!

Apêl am garafanau

YN ystod yr Eisteddfod disgwylir i 150,000 ymweledwr a'r Eisteddfod gyda nifer yn teithio o bob cwr o Gymru a thwnt ac yn chwilio am lety mewn gwestai, llety hunan arwyd a llety preifat yn yr ardal.

Pob blwyddyn hefyd ni fydd nifer o garafanau yn ymgartrefi ar Faes Carafanau swyddgoedd yr Eisteddfod fydd yn cael ei lleoli drws nesaf i'r brif Faes yn Llandow ar gyrron y Bonfa. Fe fydd rhai yn dod a'u carafan eu hunain ond eraill yn chwilio am garafanau i logi am yr ymwynhos.

Mae'r Eisteddfod wedi derbyn nifer o geisidau gan bobl sydd yn awdurdodi aros ar y Maes carafanau ond heb garafan eu hunain ac

SIGNED EDWARDS

St Dwynwen gives Eisteddfod a boost



PICTURED: (left to right) Nia Roberts and Alison Huw from the Welsh St Donats Eisteddfod fundraising committee.

SANTES Dwynwen Day – the patron saint of Welsh lovers – was celebrated in style on Wednesday, January 25, with a special event organised at Loch Fyne, Cowbridge, to raise money for the National Eisteddfod in the Vale later this year.

The pinnacle of the evening was an auction and tombola of over 100 artworks by the great and the good of the Welsh art scene, together with sketches by famous Welsh celebrities.

Aneurin, Gwilym Pritchard, Claudia Williams, Wilf Roberts, Mary Lloyd Jones and Mike Jones were among the artists who had donated pictures, with Sam Warburton, Bryn Terfel, Joe Calzaghe, Nigel Owens, Gavin Henson and local rugby star Lloyd Williams featuring among the celebrities who supported the event.

Alison Huw, chair of the Welsh St Donats' Eisteddfod fundraising committee, said: "We

had a tremendous evening, raising over £3,700 in total, thanks to the generous donations we received from the crème de la crème of the Welsh art and celebrity scene."

"We are extremely grateful to our amazing compere for the evening, our very own Caryl Parry Jones and her fellow Radio Cymru presenter Dafydd Du, to Nia Roberts for co-ordinating the donations of artworks and to Miriam, Greta and Arwel for providing the entertainment."

"The chef and staff at Loch Fyne were super and delivered an excellent meal. Huge thanks go to everyone who helped make the evening such a success."

Caru Celf wrth Ddathlu Dwynwen

CAFWYD noson Santes Dwynwen arbennig iawn yn Loch Fyne, Y Bontfaen, nos Fercher, Ionawr 25. Digwyddiad oedd hi i godi arian tuag at Eisteddfod

Genedlaethol Bro Morgannwg.

Uchafbwynt y noson oedd ocsïwn a thombola o dros 100 o weithiau celf gan fawriwr byd celf Cymru, gan gynnwys Aneurin, Gwilym Pritchard, Claudia Williams, Wilf Roberts, Mary Lloyd Jones a Mike Jones.

Roedd Sam Warburton, Bryn Terfel, Joe Calzaghe, Nigel Owens, Gavin Henson a'r seren rygbi lleol, Lloyd Williams, ymhlied yr enwogion a rhoddod darluniau ar yr achos yn rhad ac am ddilim.

Dyweddodd Alison Huw, cadeirydd pwylgor apêl Llanddunwyd a'r cyrch, "Roedd yn noson anhygoel a wnaeth godi dros £3,700, diolch i rodion haef tu hwnt gan arlunwyr a sêr enwocaf Cymru.

Mawr yw'r diolch i Caryl Parry Jones a Dafydd Du fu'n llywyddu'n osom, i Nia Roberts am gydlynwyr gweithiau celf ac i Miriam, Greta ac Arwel am ein diddanu. Cawsom wedd yr Loch Fyne a hoffwn diolch yn fawr i'r cogyd a'r staff oll am et gwneud hi'n achlysu'r arbennig i ni. Diolch i bawb wnaeth ein cefnogi unwaith yn rhagor."

Council starts countdown to the Eisteddfod

THE COUNTDOWN has officially begun to the biggest week in Wales' cultural calendar, which will this year be held in the Vale which is to play host to the National Eisteddfod from August 4-11, for the first time in 44 years, at Llandow.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council has placed a countdown clock on its website, www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/enjyng/eisteddfod_2012.aspx. Vale Council leader,

Young speakers tackle thought-provoking topics



ABOVE: The winning senior team.

FOLLOWING a successful first round of the Young Chef competition, the Rotary Club of Barry organised the Youth Speaks competition at Barry Comprehensive School on January 18.

Teams were made up of a chairperson, speaker and a third person to give the vote of thanks.

This year, the competition moved to national rules, where a talk was given as opposed to a debate.

The speaker also had to answer a question from a member of the audience to show they understood their chosen topic.

In the junior section, four teams were entered; two from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg and two from Barry Comprehensive School while in the Senior section Barry Comprehensive, Bryn

Hafren Comprehensive and Ysgol Bro Morgannwg entered one team each.

The winning junior team comprised Rhiannon Berry, Morwenna Osmond and Betsan Jones from Ysgol Bro Morgannwg. Their chosen topic was, 'The Olympics and its influence.'

The prize for the best junior speaker was awarded to John McAllister from Barry Comprehensive School;

the prize for best chairperson went to Leah Robinson; and best vote of thanks to Robin Tait – both from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg.

The judges were Terry Brooks, Graeme Milnes and Gwilym Jones from Cardiff Speaker's Club.

Speaking before the winners were announced, Terry Brooks praised all who those who had taken part and shad et such a high standard for the evening, leaving the judges with some very difficult decisions!

Presenting the prizes, Barry Rotary Club president David Ball congratulated all competitors and thanked everyone for supporting the event and also the Barry Comprehensive School for its hospitality.

The team members were Aimee Delaney, Lissie Wallington and Sarah Jayne Griffiths. The prize for the best

Society's busy year in Vale

JANUARY 19, saw the first meeting of the year for the Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing and Hedging Society, at the Six Bells Inn, Penmark.

A hedge cutting event will be staged in the Vale on Sunday, February 19. For details, contact 01446 781229.

A ploughing match will be held on Sunday, September 16. One of the classes will carry a prize of £100.

The committee intends to organise a tractor run in late April or early May to raise funds for the Ed Evans Cancer Appeal, and to support the ploughing match. For details contact 01656 654440.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE FOLLOWING are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D707.

● £2,000: 303850.
● The rollover, which now stands at £3,000, was not won this week.

● £10: 593031, 276019, 123741, 801695, 240510, 434272, 440594, 875516, 771411, 948634, 462469, 729881, 484772, 255419, 424404, 813582, 229122, 478701, 159876, 168485.

● £5: 295748, 773863, 461784, 336100, 110419, 739834, 843006, 266757, 404367, 500669, 593832, 391409, 452907, 939598, 383944, 953047, The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

TABLE TENNIS ACE PAUL CHOSEN FOR PARALYMPIAN TEAM

PAUL DAVIES, of North Cornelly, is among four Welsh athletes chosen to take part in the Paralympic Games by the British Paralympic Association (BPA).

The others are Rob Davies, from Brecon; Paul Karabardak from Swansea; and Sara Head from Cardiff. London 2012 will be the first Paralympic

Games for Paul, Rob and Sara. However, Paul Karabardak is one of the more experienced athletes in what is one of the youngest squads in the world.

ParalympicsGB Chef de Mission, Craig Hunter, said: "I'm delighted to welcome this group of athletes to ParalympicsGB."

"To have all 10 ranked in the top 11 in the world, shows there is real potential within this

squad and tribute should be paid to the governing body for supporting these athletes."

Performance manager Gorazd Vecko commented: "I am very proud that this young squad have earned their place at the Paralympic Games."

"Paralympic table tennis is very competitive, so to have this many players well placed as we go into a home games is a great situation to be in".

Agony and ecstasy for the Athletic under-11s

ATHLETIC under-11s travelled to play Pontyclun and Croesyceiliog at Pontyclun, and game one saw them face the hosts.

Pontyclun started sharply and scored the opening try, which was converted. The Ath slowly got themselves back in the game and slick hands from the backs saw Megan Webb score in the corner. Kasari Mehta converted to make it 7-7.

Another great passing move released Megan to go over in the corner for her second try, and Kasari kicked the conversion to make it 14-7 to the Ath.

From the re-start Pontyclun ran the ball the length of the field to score. The try was converted to make it level at half time.

The Ath managed to turn pressure into points as Dan O'Sullivan made a great break and ran the length of the pitch to score. Kasari Mehta converted to make it 21-14 to the Ath.

The Ath scored the final try, again by Dan O'Sullivan. Kasari kicked the conversion to make the final score Bridgend Ath 28, Pontyclun 14.

Game two against Croesyceiliog saw the Ath make a raft of changes to their starting

line-up. Croesyceiliog started the game impressively and scored five converted tries, giving them a 35-0 lead.

The Ath's determination was rewarded when the ball was recycled well, allowing Dan O'Sullivan to score. Kasari Mehta converted to make it 35-7 to Croesyceiliog.

Despite the Ath score and the pressure, Croesyceiliog managed to score a further two converted tries to make the half time score 49-7. Croesyceiliog started the second half and were quick to score a further two converted tries making it 61-7. The final

whistle was blown due to the points gap being over 50. Despite the score line, the Ath had shown great courage and commitment in their play and kept battling until the final whistle was blown.

Ath team: Thomas Anthony, Jack Obbord, Gwilym John, Kasari Mehta, Ffion Revill, Megan Webb, Dan O'Sullivan, Sion Vigus, Sam Veasey, Louis King, Brandyn Fookes, Jamie Marshall, Daffyd Beech, Josh Tidy, Thomas Reed, Jack Jenkins, William Goodhall, Charles Creffield, Sam Owen.

BR

The highlights of Paul's career so far include winning the silver medal in the team event at the 2011 European Championships, where he also beat the 2008 Paralympic gold medalist.

He cites the most influential people in his life as his son and his wife Deborah, who will both be cheering him on in 2012.

Aberafon forwards worked their way up field and good strength saw their prop power over in the corner to equalise.

Ath worked the phases and made good progress upfield and came close a few times but couldn't convert the pressure into points.

Aberafon showed determination and were rewarded for their efforts and took a 5-10 lead. Aberafon scored two more tries through their forwards to make it 5-20.

Ath dug deep and scored through Sam Stradling to bring it back to 10-20. Aberafon finished with a fine run from their outside half to make the final score 10-25.

Final Score Ath 10 – Kenfig Hill 15
Ath under-10s v Aberafon
Green Stars

Ath started with good running and

25.

UNDER-11S' DOUBLE BATTLE

THE Ath under-11s played Kenfig Hill at home in this week's fixture.

The Ath got the game underway and made a lot of the early attacks. Some good defending from Kenfig kept the Ath at bay.

Kenfig grew into the game well and began to make some good ground. It was the Ath who managed to break the deadlock just before half time.

The ball was passed out to Ffion Revill, who crashed over to score. Kasari Mehta converted to give the Ath a 7-0 lead at half time.

The second half saw both teams continue to play well but ultimately cancel each other out. The Ath went close to extending their lead on several occasions

but some good tackling from Kenfig kept them at bay.

Final score Bridgend Ath 7 Kenfig Hill 0.

The Ath made changes for the second game, also against Kenfig Hill. The Ath kicked off and started well.

Some good hands early on created space but the Ath weren't able to capitalise.

Both teams seemed evenly matched again but it was the visitors who scored a converted try just before the break to make it 7-0.

The second half saw Kenfig Hill start strongly. Two early tries extended their lead to 19-0.

The Ath kept tackling well and mounting attacks of their own despite the early scores.

BR

However it was Kenfig who managed to score the last converted try before the end of the match making the **final score Bridgend Ath 0 Kenfig Hill 28.**

Ath Team: - Thomas Anthony (captain), Jack Obbord (vice captain), Gwilym John, Kasari Mehta, Ffion Revill, Megan Webb, Dan O'Sullivan, Sion Vigus, Sam Veasey, Louis King, Brandyn Fookes, Jamie Marshall, Daffyd Beech, Josh Tidy, Thomas Reed, Jack Jenkins, William Goodhall, Sam Owen, Jack Mustoe, Oran Harry, Connor Fabian, Taine Waite, James Hermoille.

BR



ABOVE:
Young Vale fighters with their medal haul from the Ultimate Championships.

Local stars excel in the Ultimate Tae Kwon Do one-2-one championships

THE Ultimate Championships in Barnsley gave Llantwit Major and Wales Tae Kwon Do the opportunity to get back on the competition front, after being away for some time.

Taking an inexperienced team up to Barnsley to a high level competition was a gamble, but didn't it pay off!

In the Pee Wee division, Oliver Jarman who faced a higher grade and much more experienced player, just missed out on the win, but took gold in his next match.

The lady was fine after the St John Ambulance took care of her, so all was well in the end.

"The May twins have the capability with hard work of going all the way to Olympic selection in the next few years," said Master Paul Jones.

Zoe Ping, in her first competition, did well against a far more experienced player and Ruth May dominated her first fight in a hard-hitting match to take gold!

Ryan Chinn, in his first outing, won both his matches by stoppage.

Two more golds and another star in the making!

Bradley Jones made it another gold, stopping his opponent in the first round.

His second match was much tougher against a larger player, but he took gold for the second time.

John Knight, in only his second competition, did well against a more seasoned player, losing by a narrow margin in both matches.

Kevin Hiscock in the senior Black Belt Division again played well, but suffered what was thought to be a dislocated toe (later found to be broken) in his first match.

He showed great spirit to come out for his second match.

Wester Ross wins

WESTER ROSS, an eight-year-old bay gelding trained by Llancarfan's Evan Williams and ridden by Paul Moloney, won the Dick Christian Novices' Chase at Leicester on Tuesday. An 11-2 chance in a field of just four runners, Wester Ross won by four lengths from Kim Bailey's Mark Twain.

Pencoed under-15s on top

PENCOED under-15s were up against new rivals St Peters on the weekend, and the Pencoed pack were up for the game.

After a tense start to the first half, Daniel Maiden scored Pencoed's first try, converted by Alex King.

Ellis Griffiths scored the next try, and this was closely followed by a try from Lloyd Webb.

In the second half, Pencoed upped their game again and Morgan Jones started it off with a try, which was converted by Alex King.

Ellis Griffiths scored his second try of the day, also converted by Alex King.

Towards the end of the game, Jac Briggs scored Pencoed's last try, once again converted by Alex King.

The game ended 38-0 to Pencoed.

Squad: Morgan Jones, Jordan Fox, Patrick Canham, Jamie Dyer, Liam Bowen, Jonathan Clatworthy, Jason Clatworthy, Alex King, Ellis Griffiths, Chris Cooper, Matthew Ellis, Daniel Maiden, Lloyd Webb, Rhys Brownell, Lewis Brennan, Morgan Jeffries, Jacob Charles, James Merchant, Jac Briggs, Scott Ewing, Owain Clarke and Josh Maunders.

KP

JM

Llantwit Major under-11s win high-scoring match

THE Llantwit Major under-11s played host to district semi-finalists Llandaff.

The visitors laid down the gauntlet early on by scoring two excellent tries, and scored a further two to make it 28-0 at half time.

Llantwit then made a few changes at the interval and the domination started right on the whistle, when a bouncing drop kick from Dom Henson saw a big tackle come in from Joss Harris.

Owen Hodge crossed the whitewash to pull one back for the home side, and Llantwit then stepped up a gear and started playing their own game.

A drive over from Dom Henson made it 28-14 to the visitors.

The steamrolling forwards started to boss the game and were getting stronger and stronger. A quick ball from scrum half Richardson saw Iwan Robinson-Booth, shrug off two tackles to score his 32nd try of the season.

Llantwit were a try behind and side-stepping magic from centre Owen Evans saw the teams level.

Llantwit then took the foot off the

gas and allowed Llandaff to score, but it wasn't long before Llantwit had the ball back in their hands through winger Luc Williams, who broke the line, only to be tackled just short.

Quick feet saw scrum half Max Greve score to level the scores, which was followed by Treadgold crossing the line to give the boys the lead. A further two tries from Iwan Robinson Booth sealed a final score of 56-35.

Man of the match went to Owen Hodge. The team wish JD a speedy recovery after recently breaking his wrist.

Team: Brandon Hughes ©, Bruno Jeziorski, Jou Guerrero, Rhys Roberts, Tyler Haines, Max Greve, Liam Padmore, Owen Evans, Dylan Holloway, Anthony Van Houton, Luc Williams, Rhys Williams, Dom Henson, William Cummings Jones, Joss Harris, Owen Hodge, Connor Treadgold, Mason Richardson, Iwan Robinson Booth, Liam Palmer.

KP

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT

Badminton

ON January 19, eight Cowbridge pupils travelled to Cogan Leisure Centre in Penarth to compete in the annual 5 x 60 Vale badminton tournament.

The team consisted of four girls from year-7 and 8 and four boys from the same age group.

The girls battled their way to a final against a very strong Stanwell team but unfortunately Abbi Price, Claudia Howells, Izzy Gamlin and Anna Marie Pellegrotti failed to bring home the trophy on this occasion.

However, they should feel very proud of what they have achieved, beating Llanwit Major and St Richard Gwyn on their journey.

The boys team, made up of Sam Stewart, Matthew Reynolds, Finn Murphy and Josh Evans had an equally difficult group of fixtures to overcome if they were to progress to the final.

A 5-0 whitewash of a competitive Barry side didn't tell the whole story, with Cowbridge's first opponents fighting for every point.

The next round of matches against Stanwell were more straightforward, again beating their opponents 5-0 and progressing convincingly through to the semi finals where they would meet Llanwit Major.

This match against Llanwit's young guns saw Cowbridge again produce a 5-0 victory which took them to the final against a St Cyres team who had not lost a game.

The final promised more than it delivered with Cowbridge overwhelmingly beating St Cyres 5-0.

This outstanding performance takes the team through to the south east Wales tournament in February. Well done!

Player of the match: Sam Stewart.

Hockey

COWBRIDGE played their second match of hockey against St Cyres, playing two seven-a-side matches.

Selina Radcliffe volunteered to play for St Cyres and she definitely strengthened their team by scoring and setting goals up.

The two A teams played each other, first with St Cyres winning and then the two B teams played, with Cowbridge winning.

In the second half, the A teams played the B team. Both Cowbridge and St Cyres beat the B teams by a considerable margin.

All the girls who played have already developed from their first match.

Special mention must go to Seren Hawksworth, who was instrumental in defence, and Hannah Sloan who showed grit and determination to win the ball throughout – well done to all the team.

Rugby

ON January 23, the Cowbridge year-8 rugby team played their first match of the calendar year against Bro Morgannwg away.

With the match being the semi-final of the Vale Cup, there was a place in the finals beckoning, and although having lost to Bro Morgannwg in the league fixture, getting a victory was going to be an uphill battle.



The school's year-8 rugby team.

The game started extremely well for Cowbridge, and it was clearly evident that with a full strength team, the year-8 side were going to be a totally different prospect from the one that Bro Morgannwg met before Christmas.

Within 10 minutes, Cowbridge were leading 7-0. Bro Morgannwg just couldn't clear their lines, and with possession, Cowbridge quickly moved the ball along the line, where Harrison Stevens sneaked in the corner to score a try.

The game was restarted for no longer than five minutes when Harrison Stevens scored again.

The score was 12-0, and Cowbridge were looking like they were going to run away with the match.

Bro Morgannwg had not started the game yet, and with a runaway try and a quick tapped penalty, they were level at the close of the half.

The way that Cowbridge started the first half meant there were definitely more tries to come, and with the heart and determination they were playing with they were not going to lose this match.

The second half started, and for this moment on Bro Morgannwg only stepped foot in the Cowbridge half twice.

The boys were like a team possessed – when they had the ball they ran hard and true; when they didn't, they did not let anyone move more than an inch and they hit every ruck with a willingness to never lose the ball again.

The first points were scored by quick thinking from Owain Leyshon, who tapped the ball quickly and left the Bro Morgannwg defence for dead.

Owain doubled his tally with a blistering run

from the base of the scrum. James Holden then made the score 33-12, by pressuring the attack into a mistake, picking the ball up and crashing over for a well deserved try.

The game finished 33-12. The back row of Duncan Ace, Owain and James were everywhere on the pitch, Cai Evans kicked sensibly and always put the team in the right positions, and Joe Nott and Dan Bunny kept the fast and strong Bro Morgannwg centres at bay.

Player of the match: James Holden, Owain Leyshon and Duncan Ace.

Archery

ON January 15, Calum Young competed in the Welsh and Open Indoor Championships for Archery.

The championships were hotly contested, especially with the event having a record attendance with teams from England and Scotland travelling to participate.

After a tiring four hours of shooting, the scores were in.

Performing any sport for four hours is hard enough, but with archery being a sport which is won and lost on such fine margins, concentration and determination were going to be key.

The result was then announced, and in his first ever championship shoot, Calum was awarded with second place in the under-12s competition, earning himself a silver medal.

Well done Calum! It is great that you are doing extremely well in archery.

Are you looking to release the equity in your home?

You don't want to move away!



Why not consider a luxury retirement park home at Castleton Park, St Athan, Vale of Glamorgan, suitable for retired residents over 50



Main Office: 01446 488 421
or 07880 804 205
or 07979 291 286

Castleton Residential Park
Castleton Road, St Athan
South Glamorgan.
CF62 4LG
www.castletonpark.co.uk

WOODRIDGE

BRIDGEND CF31 4PE

2 BEDROOM CONTEMPORARY APARTMENTS FROM £89,950



DEAL OF THE MONTH A FANTASTIC 3 BEDROOM DUPLEX APARTMENT

- 3 DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- 3 BATHROOMS
- BALCONY AND TERRACE
- 1410 SQFT FROM ONLY £159,950!



01656 654 328
WWW.PJCHOMES.CO.UK

02920 368 930
WWW.SAVILLS.CO.UK



Kenfig Hill RFC Seconds edge Llanharan in tough conditions

KENFIG Hill seconds won a hard-fought encounter with Llanharan at Cornelly Field, despite the pitch probably being in a worse state than their usual Groft Goch pitch, which had been deemed unplayable.

This was a 'nip and tuck' affair, with the Mules' second string eventually coming out on top.

The game started with passive scrums, as requested by Llanharan, which was disappointing for the home team after the previous week's powerful forward performance against Heol-y-Cyw.

The Mules started well and flanker Matthew Bater galloped over from close range following a flowing backline move. Fullback Raymond Evans added the two points.

The Mules continued to dominate the early exchanges and a further try was added by prop Gavin Reffell, who crashed over near the posts. Evans added the two points and also a penalty goal to put the Mules 17 points ahead.

At this point, Llanharan began to force their way back into the game with powerful play from their potent backline. This pressure resulted in a converted try.

Llanharan continued to dominate field position but the Mules ended the half with an opportunist interception try from full back Evans, who raced the

KENFIG HILL 2ND XV	36
LLANHARAN 2ND XV	31



Matthew Bater drives forward.

length of the pitch to score under the posts. He converted the try to leave the half time score as Mules 24, Llanharan 7.

The second half was the reverse of the first with Llanharan holding the upper hand.

Quality play from their half backs and centres resulted in Llanharan scoring three converted tries and a penalty to race into a 31-24 lead.

In the final 10 minutes of the game, the Mules eventually stirred themselves and, following concerted forward pressure, flanker Dai Dent drove over the line. Evans narrowly missed the conversion.

However, the momentum was now with the Mules and after some good interplay between backs and forwards, winger Ben Clarke was able to out-strip his opposite number and score out

GO'S

PENCOED YOUTH 41
PYLE YOUTH 22

Vowles, scoring half way out.

Good combined handling between backs and forwards then gave forward Liam Callaghan the opportunity to drive over. Thomas converted and Pencoed led 24-0 after 20 minutes.

Pencoed continued to attack from all areas, and back row forward Jordan Hawkins celebrated his selection for the Boys Clubs of Wales squad with the fifth try.

Prior to the interval Vowles got his second try and Pencoed led 36-0 at the break having played some superb



ABOVE: Chris Leyshon in action.

PHOTOGRAPHS by PETER GILLING.



Ben Clark sprints for the try line.

It's too little too late for Bryncethin under-11s

BRYNCEETHIN UNDER-11S	28
PONTYCLUN UNDER-11S	56

FOLLOWING the recent victory against Pontyclun, this return fixture was highly anticipated, with the visitors promising to be as competitive as ever and provide a stern test for the Bryncethin lads.

Kenfig Hill scorers: R Evans (one try, one pen, four cons); D Dent (one try); M Bater (one try); G Reffell (one try); B Clarke (one try).

Man of the match: No 8 Sam Richards.

GOOD WIN FOR YOUTH TEAM

Elsewhere, a good all-round performance saw the Kenfig Hill/Cornelly youth side defeat Vardre youth 30-5, with Aaron Graham and Lee Williams having outstanding games.

GO'S

Despite applying plenty of pressure in the Pontyclun half, a combination of wrong decisions to turn the ball over and poor tackling accounted for the first three Ponty tries being scored from distance.

No matter what the Bryncethin boys tried, it didn't pay off and another two tries were conceded in the first half for Pontyclun to lead 35-0.

Following stern words, the second half started with Bryncethin showing renewed vigour. However, the pattern of the first half was to continue with the concession of a further two scores.

At 49-0 down it seemed as if the boys were going to be on the wrong end of a beating, but for some reason things started to click.

All the boys can take great pride in themselves for the way they responded in adversity.

The phases were being gone through and the ball was beginning to stick. First to score a try was Luke Thomas, to be quickly followed by a score for Luke Lockyer.

RH

Pencoed Seconds look for answers after their defeat

Despite Pencoed dominating the set pieces throughout, Cefn Cribbwyr ran out comfortable winners.

CEFN CRIBBWR 2NDS	35
PENCOED 2NDS	17

second row Chris Howells carrying strongly, and Rhys Samuels getting through a lot of good work from the back row.

Behind the scrum full back Jamie Williams looked sharp before having to leave the field with a cut eye, and veteran Lyndon Griffiths, playing at scrum half, put in a lot of tackles, far more than he would want at this stage of his career.

Pencoed also kicked away possession on too many occasions. However there were good individual performances for Pencoed, with

Tries for Pencoed came from Nathan Hill, Aaron Halse and Tom Cross, Cross adding a conversion.

On Saturday the Second XV return to league action at Glyncorrwg, a game they need to win to retain top spot on the run in to the league semi-finals on Saturday, April 28.

TR

Pyle Youth outfought by powerful Pencoed

PYLE Youth visited Pencoed and hoped to overturn their narrow defeat at home at the beginning of the month.

Unfortunately it was a much changed Pencoed side this time and they came out on top by 41-22.

From the off, Pencoed used their bigger forwards to punch holes through the Pyle defence and they quickly scored a converted try.

This was to be their tactics for the rest of the half and they scored a further five tries. The introduction of influential No 8 Owen Thomas brought much-needed assurance to the Pyle defence.

The second half could not have been more different, with Owen Thomas leading the Pyle forwards on attacking runs at every opportunity and they quickly scored three tries, two from Thomas and the other by full back

Scott Hill.

Pyle almost had another try through flanker Keiran Hooper but he was judged to have lost the ball before grounding it, while Pencoed had a similar try allowed not long after.

With time ticking away Pyle camped themselves in the Pencoed half and again scored a try after a number of pick and drive phases allowed flanker Nathaniel James to power over the line. Despite their best efforts, Pyle were unable to score again.

Pyle's man of the match was Owen Thomas for his excellent defensive work and his attacking runs; Scott Hill and prop Antonio Hamblin were other players of note.

Pyle play hosts to Cefn Cribbwyr in a cup game this weekend at Brynglas fields, kick off at 1:30pm. HR

For the Pencoed view of the game, see report on bottom left.

It's sweet revenge for Ton Gelli thanks to early goal rush

PLAYING their first game at home game since October, Kenfig Hill AFC welcomed Ton Gelli last Saturday.

On a very heavy pitch, Ton opened the scoring when Kenfig Hill's Shaun Duffy gave away a free kick on the edge of the box.

Following recent disappointments where the boys have only played for one half of the match it was disappointing that this week they only managed a quarter!

When they do concentrate on what they are doing, they are able to play some fantastic rugby but yet again their concentration let them down.

Too many mistakes were made and in Pontyclun half, they faced a team only too willing to take advantage.

Great credit must go to all the players for the way they didn't let their heads drop and the way they fought back in the final quarter.

Let us all hope that next week will see a team performance for the entire 40 minutes.

Match day squad:

Daniel Osarigie, Josh Napper, Jack Thomas, Finlay Mullens, Luke Lockyer, Tomas Jones, Rhys Davies, Luke Thomas, Scott Ryall, Jack Thomas, Keiron Dixon, Evan Wyatt, Aaron Thomas and Morgan Rimron.

RH

Roger Barnes no chance of stopping.

Ton scored another goal soon after when they scrambled the ball into the net from a corner and at this stage of the match things were looking pretty grim for Kenfig.

However, just before half time a lovely floated corner from Hayden Lau was met by centre half Shaun Duffy to head home, reducing the deficit to 4-1.

The second half started well for Kenfig when Gareth Duffy cut in from the right hand side to unleash a curling shot into the top corner of the net to make the score 4-2.

This seemed to lift the player's spirits and it wasn't long before Gareth Duffy was put through again, but with only the keeper to beat he failed to convert his chance.

Kenfig were now creating more chances and were also defending better, with Dai Macormick and Daniel Humphries showing up well but then, from a

quick counter attack, Ton scored another goal, headed home by their No 10.

This seemed to spur the Kenfig players on and from another Shaun Duffy and Hayden Lau corner combination, the ball was smashed into the back of the net with a rocket header to make the score a respectable 5-3.

Unfortunately, with time running out and the players tiring, one final attack by Ton gave them another goal with a tap in within the six-yard box.

This was a great result for Ton Gelli, who played some excellent football considering the state of the pitch and it was also sweet revenge after losing both games (and the league title) to Kenfig last year.

How things have changed this year. While Ton Gelli have managed to keep their squad together, Kenfig fielded only two players from last year's championship winning team.

RICHARD SIMS

Pencoed's fast start puts them in charge

FOLLOWING a close 10-12 encounter some weeks ago at Pyle, the home side effectively won this match in the opening quarter.

Dominating possession during this period with their offload game sucking in Pyle defenders, and with their support runners maintaining continuity, Pencoed were impressive.

Home skipper Lloyd Barger opened the scoring, appearing on the end of a move to fend off the last defender and race over. Rhys Thomas converted.

Next on the score sheet was centre Rhys

Vowles, scoring half way out.

The second half was a different story, and all credit to Pyle who came back strongly to score four tries of their own, Owen Thomas getting a brace.

Pencoed's final try came from prop forward Sam Burke who burst onto a pop pass from scrum half Tom Summers to get just enough downward pressure on the ball to satisfy the match official, and Pencoed ran out 41-22 winners to remain top of their section of the Ospreys League.

TR



DON'T DO IT YOURSELF

*Call a professional
From our A-Z list*

Blinds and Curtains

3 for 2

Buy 3 blinds for the price of 2



This fantastic offer is for a limited time only, call us today

Probably Wales' Number 1 for:

- Blinds
- Shutters
- Awnings
- Canopies

SOLAR

North Road, Bridgend
Industrial Estate, Bridgend CF31 3TP
Tel: 01656 663800

DAYTONA

Unit 3F, Palmersvale Business Centre,
Palmerston Road, Barry
Tel: 01446 740842

www.solarsunshades.co.uk

solar
blinds

The GEM
01446 774484

Aerials & Satellite

Aerials & Satellite

1st Digital
Aerials
Local Digital Aerial Specialist

Digital Aerials Installed & Repaired.
Set Up and Tune In Service.

Problems with:

• Missing Channels • Freezing • Breaking Up

Call Adrian on 07999 331 160 or
Barry 01446 747875/743267

SPECIAL OFFER
£50 Installation plus £20 per extra room

QRNE VISION
DIGITAL AERIAL & SATELLITE SERVICES INSTALLATIONS

Sign up to Sky TV with us! Digital aerials supplied at competitive prices

FREE Sky+ or HD Box SKY Repairs, adjustments and installations.

EXISTING Sky customer upgrading to Sky + £159.00 Is Your Aerial Installer...?

& HD upgrade only £60

✓ Domestic & Commercial
✓ Discounts For Oaps
✓ 24 Hour 7 Days Service
✓ 12 Month Guarantee
✓ MDI Approved Installers

FREE ESTIMATES SAME DAY SERVICE

Confederation of Aerial Installers
Certified? Police Checked?
Using Industry Benchmark Aerials,
Cables and Accessories?

ONE VISION ARE!

Wall Mounted TV Installation Specialists
- visit our website for examples

CALL Vale of Glamorgan 01446 439 306
PAUL WILLIAMS Bridgend 01656 349 281



www.onevisionltd.co.uk



The Aerial Man
(DAN GRACE)



- * Digital Aerials
- * Repairs & Upgrades
- * Affordable Prices
- * Reliable Service
- * OAP Discounts
- * Free Home Visits

01446 439 124
07818 413 451

www.dangraceaerials.co.uk

VALE DIGITAL
DIGITAL AERIAL & SATELLITE SERVICES

DIGITAL AERIALS FROM £50

SPECIAL OFFER!!!!

DIGITAL AERIAL COMPLETE INSTALLATION £65
EXTRA ROOMS £20 EACH

TV WALL MOUNTING & TV SET UP & TUNE IN SERVICE

ALL TYPES OF AERIAL & SATELLITES REPAIRED OR REPLACED

TEL. Tim on 07772206399 / 01446 793189 ANYTIME

COMPETITIVE PRICES - FREE ESTIMATES - OAP DISCOUNTS - 7 DAY SERVICE

COVERING ALL AREAS

CBA Checked ✓ CBA Checked ✓

Barry Aerials

Aerial & Satellite Installations

TV Aerial & Satellite Dish Installation & Repair

Poor Reception Fixed

OAP Discounts

Additional TV Points

Digital Aerial Installations

Free Home Visits

Freesat Installations



LOCAL FRIENDLY PERSONAL SERVICE • ALL AREAS COVERED

Call us on 01446 439125

Building Services

L.A.P.P. BUILDERS

For all your building requirements.

No job too small -
all work considered.

01446 732903 or 01446 405098

lapp.builders@gmail.com

BARRY & VALE DAMP & TIMBER TREATMENT

SOLVING ALL YOUR DAMP PROBLEMS



01446 420784 • 07970 642537

GRABit PLANT HIRE LTD

GROUNDWORK CONTRACTORS
GRAB HIRE SERVICE

318 VALE ENTERPRISE CENTRE,
HAYES ROAD, SULLY
Call 01446 700535
or visit our website
www.grabitplanthireltd.co.uk



For all your groundwork requirements, call Wendy -
friendly, professional advice and free estimates!

BARGAIN Blinds
Quality Blinds At Bargain Prices

- Perfect Fit Conservatory Blinds
- Pleated Venetian Blinds
- Roman Blinds
- Roller Blinds
- Vertical Blinds
- Wooden Blinds

bargainblinds_@hotmail.co.uk
www.bargainblinds.co.uk

3 GOOD REASONS

1 FREE Fitting
2 FREE Quotation
3 5 Year Guarantee

3 BLINDS FOR £99 VERTICALS

Mirage Blinds

Freephone:
0500 295192

Made in Wales....Proud to be Welsh

Building Services

R.J.T
PLASTERING & GENERAL BUILDER

Flat/Fibre Glass, Roofs,
Damp Proofing,
Refurbishments.

Best Prices.
Free Estimates.
01446 713737
or 07920 195775

MASONWISE BUILDERS

01446 742928

Established since 1979

- Extensions
- Disabled Grant Work
- Roofing & Repairs
- Conservatories
- Patio & Drives

No Job Too Small

Free Estimates

masonwise.builders@hotmail.com
44 Newlands Street, Barry

CORONA-BUILD

PROPERTY RENOVATIONS

- Bathrooms
- Kitchens
- CONCRETE WORKTOPS AND CABINET SOLUTIONS
- NATURAL STONE MARBLE • VICTORIAN FLOOR UNDER FLOOR HEATING • LIME RENDERING PLASTERING AND BRICKWORK EXPERT

Call 01446 774384 or 07894 388610

www.mcorona.co.uk • Email mcorona@live.co.uk

MADE-TO-MEASURE BLINDS SALE
HALF PRICE

- Verticals
- Rollers
- Venetians
- Romans
- Shutters
- Conservatory blinds
- First Local Service

Call now for a FREE appointment

0800 916 6563

www.hillarys.co.uk

Hillarys



DO IT YOURSELF

*Call a professional
From our A-Z list*



Carpet Services

STEVE SEGUST FLOORING
Carpet Fitting, Refitting & Repair Service Available
~ Est 1987 ~
Choose from the comfort of your own home.
Free quotations, fitting, underlay and gripper.
All types of flooring available with a huge range of samples to choose from.
Best prices around.
Call any time...
01656 768120
or 07774 807111

Chimney Sweeps

Clear Soot Chimney Sweep
Certified with the **Guild of Master Sweeps'**
Efficient, reliable, no mess. Insurance certificates issued.
Tel. 07890 857238
google me @ guildofmastersweeps

Cleaning Services

1st CHOICE CLEANING SERVICES
• Clean/Sanitise Carpets and Upholstery
• Pet Odour/Stain Removal
• Protective Treatments
• Leather suite cleaned & fed
Local, reliable & Professional
NO VAT
01446 737695
07930 157952

Decorating Services

STADRE PAINTING & DECORATING
• INTERNAL & EXTERNAL WORK
• QUALITY WORK
• COMPETITIVE RATES
• FREE QUOTATIONS
**07791 752532
01656 728157**

D.GULLIVER First Class Painter and Decorator
Paper Hanging a Specialty
• All Internal & External Work
• No Job too Small
• 25 Years Experience
• Free Estimates
Tel 01446 403853
Mobile: 07914 056255

Brian Attley
DECORATORS
Interior & Exterior
Including Coving & Tiling
FREE ESTIMATES
RHOOSSE
01446 711817
07985 663798

Electrical Services

S.M.Vaughan

ELECTRICAL SERVICES
ALL ELECTRICAL WORK
UNDERTAKEN

• Rewires • Sockets • Lights, etc

01446 734733 • Mob 07976 790096
Unit 11, Ty Verlon Ind. Estate, Barry



VALE CARPETS
The Carpet Shop that comes to you
100's of Carpet & Vinyl samples
Established since 1980
Also Carpet, Upholstery Cleaning
Tel: Paul Wright
01446 751152
07811 092477

Chimney Sweep
C.R. JOSE
Est. 1965
The Original Sweep
Bird Guards Fitted
HETAS Registered
Tel 01446 792735

CCMS (Wales) Ltd
GUTTER CLEANING

01446 741460
07830 480569

Computer Services

Computer Problems?
WE FIX THEM
crystal-it
01446 731231
Home Visits
Computer HELP when YOU need IT
Crystal IT Services Ltd

HD Computer Solutions
• All problems fixed
• Fast, reliable, on-site service
• Friendly advice freely given
• No fix, no fee
• Free callout
Tel 01446 773158
07779 713604 anytime

AB COMPUTER SERVICES
TUITION - BROADBAND WIRELESS NETWORKS REPAIRS & INSTALLATION
For home or office
Tel: 07811 422 946
27 High St, Cowbridge
www.cowbridge-it.co.uk

Labour 25% Off SPECIAL OFFER
Richard Malia
Carpenter-Joiner
All aspects of Property Maintenance undertaken
**07531 37 06 59
01446 79 56 62**

FLOYDS ENVIRONMENTAL
• Septic Tank *
• Cesspit Emptying *
• Treatment Plants *
Floyds is a well established service
**07970 809096
01656 722665**
floyds@homecall.co.uk
www.sewageanddrainage.co.uk

Double Glazing

REFIT
(Established Family Business)

Double Glazing Repair Specialists & Locksmiths
Why renew when you can repair!
Richard 07518 256743 or 01656 842414
www.refitlocksmiths.co.uk

MPN Windows, your local Network VEKA member is recommended by Steve Davis
0% FINANCE

FREE VERTICAL BLINDS
Offer only with this voucher

DOORS, WINDOWS, CONSERVATORIES
GARAGE CONVERSIONS,
REPAIRS & INSTALLATIONS
PRICES YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS!

M.P.N. MPN UPVC WINDOWS & DOORS
01446 439212 • 01656 648464 • 02920 508770

E-Mail: mpnwindows@aol.com

www.mpnwindows.com

Bridgend Showroom: 10a Ewenny Road, Bridgend CF31 3HL
Cardiff Showroom: Unit 2, Leckwith Rd, Cardiff CF11 8AP
Free conservatory design service available

Opening hours 9am to 9pm 7 days a week

Electrical Services

REPAIRS
Washing Machines Electric Cookers, Tumble Driers, etc

Repaired in your own home
**Freephone 0800 2984518
Barry 744117**

ELECTRICAL REPAIRS

Washing Machines, Cookers, Fridge/Freezers, Tumble Dryers, Ovens, Hobs, Hood. Built-in or Freestanding Appliances.

APPLIANCE CENTRE

01446 700206/730884

Dave Reffell
Electrical Services
Domestic Installer Scheme
Free Quotations
01446 751743
07743 500149
dmreffell@hotmail.co.uk

TELE-ELECTRICAL SERVICING
Specialist repairs in TV, Video, DVD & Audio. Installations, tuning and set-up service.
Tel: (01656) 654156 or 07792 887835

Garage Doors
GARAGE DOOR SERVICES
The garage door specialists

All types of doors supplied, fitted & repaired
Over 15 years experience. Same day repairs.
**07783 703366
01446 743181**
www.gdsdoors.co.uk

PJ CLARKE

BRIDGEND DOMESTIC APPLIANCE REPAIRS

Washing Machines, Tumble Dryers, Dishwashers, etc. Est 1983

Most makes repaired
Machines **NOT** taken away
Repaired at your own home

• Bridgend 659354 07974 120082

ELECTRICAL REPAIRS

Washing Machines, Cookers, Fridges, Freezers, Cleaners, Tumble Dryers etc

K. WATKINS

Electrical Services Est. 1978
WE DO NOT COVER BARRY
Bridgend 650723



Garden Services

Arborwood Tree Care

Tree pruning • Crown lifting
Tree felling • Dangerous tree work
Pollarding • Dead wooding • Hedge cutting
Tree dismantling • Root pruning
Ground clearance

Call us for a friendly, free quote. Fully insured.
Tel: 07910 417471 or 01446 792262

Complete Garden Services

FENCING • DECKING • TREES FELLED, HEDGES AND LAWNS • WALLS, PATHS AND PATIOS

Telephone: 01446 419428
or 07765 611753

CHAINSAWS
RIVERLEN Horticulture @Husqvarna
SALES - SERVICE - REPAIRS - SPARES
LAWN MOWERS - RIDGE-ONS - CHAINSAWS
STRIMMERS - AND GARDEN ACCESSORIES

WINTER SERVICE SPECIALS
Ring for details
Most makes serviced and repaired
Collection service available

VIKING STIHL
Vale Business Park, Llandow, Cowbridge CF71 7PF
Tel: 01446 775602
HEDGECUTTERS

MORE GARDEN SERVICES ON NEXT PAGE

Double Glazing

WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIR SERVICE

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN ALL ASPECTS OF UPVC AND ALUMINIUM WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIR

Do you have any of the following problems...?

Misted-up Double Glazing • Broken Hinges
Seized Patio Door Rollers • Faulty door Locks
Seized Handles • Draughts • Broken Letter Box • Leaks, etc
If so phone for a free estimate and advice

FREEPHONE COWBRIDGE 0800 169 5171

We offer a competitive and friendly service to the Vale and surrounding area
TRY US FOR NEW UPVC WINDOWS AND DOORS
8 am - 8 pm (7 days)

Window Tec UK
• Window and Door Repair •

Garden Services

NDP GARDEN and PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
Grass Cutting, Weeding
Shrubs & Hedges Trimmed,
Tree Felling, Fencing,
Patios, Turfing
Gutters & Facias Cleaned
Power Washing

- Free Estimates
 - Unbeatable Prices
 - Reliable Family Team
- 01446 773935 or 07773 992704

BRIDGE VALE TREE SERVICES

Specialists in Large/Dangerous Trees
FELLING, PRUNING, CROWN REDUCTION, THINNING OUT AND TOTAL DISMANTLING
HEDGE CUTTING & FENCING AVAILABLE
HIGHLY QUALIFIED/INSURED
SITE CLEARANCE - FREE QUOTES -
Tel: 01446 713857 or 07921 902729

The Green Factor Ltd
Free estimates, fully insured.
• Landscaping • Fencing
• Decking • Hedge Cutting
• Garden Clearance
• Patios and Paving
Call Paul on 01446 736525 or 07815 319427
WE ARE QUALIFIED, RELIABLE AND LOCAL!

Handyman Services**Handyman Services****The Maintenance Team**

- Carpentry
- Decorating
- Electrical
- Fencing
- Gardening
- Jet Washing
- Masonry
- Painting
- Plastering
- Plumbing
- Rubbish Removal
- Tiling
- Tree Surgery
- Window Cleaning

NO JOB TOO SMALL!

If you need someone who is reliable, professional and can do the work at a sensible price:

Call Gareth: 01446 794134 (Office)
07795 363175 (Mobile)

Plumbing Services**Power Flush****Plastering Services****WP Plastering Services**

All aspects of plastering, also building and maintenance work undertaken.
Call now for free quote.
Tel: 07915 390029

Roofing Services

01446 404838

Silvey Roofing

- New Roofs/Repairs
 - UPVC Guttering & Fascias
- All new roofs covered by a 10 year insurance backed guarantee

FREE ESTIMATES

www.silveyroofing.co.uk

**ROOFTEC****ROOFING SERVICE**

New slate/ tile/flat roofs.

Also fibreglass flat roofs.

All aspects of uPVC

guttering, fascias,

downpipes, etc.

Chimney/valley repairs.

House maintenance

work carried out.

No job too small.

Guaranteed competitive rates.

Tel. (01656) 722593

Mobile: 07969 248688.

Free estimates

24 hour emergency call out.

Wanted**SUTTONS Auto Salvage**

Up to £150 paid on collection, for scrap, MOT failures, and tax expired vehicles. Also body shells and scrap metals collected. No wheels, no problem.

Tel: 029 2059 7887

07971 648596

Wanted**Llandow Metals****LICENSED FACILITY**

We take Cars, Scrap & Non Ferrous Metals. Huge range of vehicle spare parts in stock.

Call: 01446 792669 or 07966 171840

01656 720551
07973 488806

Roofing specialists
S. MIDDLETON & SON
We cover all aspects of roofing including Firestone EPDM Flat Roofing Rubber Systems

Tiling Services**Bonny Tiler**

Wall & Floor Tiling Specialists
Full Bathroom and Wetroom installation

Professional, Friendly & Reliable Service
01446 796582 / 07854 168459
www.bonnytiler.co.uk

**DH Solutions - Cash For Scrap**

ALL VEHICLES BOUGHT FROM YOUR HOME OR WORKPLACE, FLEXIBLE COLLECTION TIMES.

£170 minimum up to £20,000

Cash on collection

All vehicle quotes on a complete vehicle basis with factory components.

£100 MINIMUM any vehicles pre-1993/L Reg

Batteries & Catalytic Converters Bought
No wheels? No problem! Open 24 hours

www.dhsolutionscash4scrap.co.uk

08453 047117/07785 943145

Established over 23 years

Tilestyle

Martyn Hacker
SPECIALIST WALL AND FLOOR CERAMIC AND NATURAL STONE TILING
PROFESSIONAL, RELIABLE SERVICE
07816 668076 or 01446 792676
martynhacker05@hotmail.co.uk

Tutors**TUITION**

Qualified & experienced teacher offering tuition of English, French and Spanish to both children and adults (beginners up to A-Level). Tel: 01446 420035 or 07814 257641

CLASSICAL GUITAR LESSONS

In your own home
Mark Gardiner
BMus (Hons)
RWCMD
CRB Checked
Tel: 07834 407911

School of Motoring**Cats Eyes Driving School Ltd**

- Lessons from £10.99 • Instructor training
- Learn from 14 years of age
- One week crash courses including test
- Automatic Vehicles now available

0800 0280 406
www.catseyesdrivingschool.co.uk

**VEHICLE RECYCLING & SCRAP METALS**

We buy any: Car, Van, Lorry, Bus, Scrap Metal etc

UP TO £20,000 CASH PAID

We will beat any price locally for: Copper, Lead, Brass, Aluminium, Stainless Steel, Household Wire, Armour Cable, etc.

We collect: all over S. Wales
Collection within 1 hour
ONLY licensed company
Registered with the DVLA and Environmental Agency in Barry

Call us today on
01446 701707
(24 Hours)

Telephone/Broadband**Telephone/Broadband**

ARDENT TELEPHONE WIRING
Local Telephone and Broadband Engineer.
Extensions and Faults.
Internet connection issues.
Tel 07787 380972
ardent.wiring@hotmail.co.uk

LANEWISE DRIVING SCHOOL

First 3 hours from £30
First 10 hours from £120
FOR TOTAL BEGINNERS
01446 719555
07798 501267

Situations Vacant

FILCO Foods
Filco Supermarket LLANTWIT MAJOR
Creative General Cook
required to work in a retail supermarket environment, preparing a range of savouries, cakes, salads, bake-off bread, and cooked meats. Direct contact with customers and able to give basic training to create a support cooking team.
5 day week, day hours, £6.43 per hour.
For application contact Gareth Johnson 01446 792286

Beech Tree Inn
Culverhouse Cross
requires**Trainee Chef**
16-18 years

Fantastic opportunity to train to NVQ Level 2 standard in a professional, award-winning kitchen.
Call us now on 029 2059 3106
www.thebeechtreeinn.info

Property

TO LET
BRIDGEND
MODERN INDUSTRIAL
STORAGE/WORKSHOPS
RENTS FROM
£150 per week
07850 204481

Articles For Sale

ADVERTISE HERE £12 inc. VAT - box for 2 weeks. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to 'The Glamorgan GEM' at The GEM, Craig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. Sorry no refunds are given.

2 Seater Leather Sofa (new) & (new) Electric Fire £200

Single Bed (new) & **Mattress** (new) £200

Single Bed (to go up against wall) **FREE**

Heat Foot Massager (new & still in box) £50

01656 890489

3 Seater Sofa, off white, linen effect material, excellent condition £50

Small circular **Pine Dining Table** (Single turn centre leg) + 2 pine chairs £35

Hotpoint 'Aquarius' washing machine, excellent condition & reliable, due to moving to fitted accomodation. £50

01446 421687

Family Notices**CREAMER**
Michael Paul

Passed away 27th January 2012, at St Joseph's Convent Nursing Home, after a long illness, aged 75 years.

Dearly loved and sadly missed by wife Joan, children Sandy, Marc and Donna, grandchildren and all his family and friends.

Requiem Mass on Friday 3rd February at 2 p.m. at St Patrick's Church, Stafford, followed by cremation at Stafford Crematorium.

Family flowers only, donations to the Alzheimer's Society. Enquiries to W Emery & Sons Tel. 01785 251205

Kathleen Nixon

John and family wish to thank relatives and friends for their kindness and sympathy shown during their recent sad loss of Kathy, also for the many cards and messages that they have received and for the donations to the British Lung Foundation.

Special thanks to Lyndsay Ellis and staff of Park Independent Funeral Directors and the staff at Llandough Hospital for their consideration and help.

WILLIAMS
Betty (Née Apjohn)

Suddenly on 23 January 2012, at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Dearly loved wife of the Reverend Norman Williams, sister to the late Mary Evans, much loved mother of Jeannine and David, loving mother-in-law of David and Sian, special Nana of Ella, Mari, Iwan and Thomas.

Service at the Church of St John the Baptist, Llanblethian, Cowbridge on Friday, February 3 at 12.45pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only.

For Sale**Big Bag Logs****Seasoned Logs****Delivered to your door**

Logs are delivered in the big bags Use straight out of the bag

Call **PREMIERTURF**

Phone 01443 237439
Mobile 07815 861864

**FREE****Upright Piano**

Must collect.

Llantwit major

area.

07871 193995

New dark brown leather/suede effect
3 Piece Suite
(3 seater, 2 seater & chair). Cost £600 selling for £450 ono. Can deliver.

01446 732005
07927 162661

Hotpoint under corner Fridge 600cm x 600cm x 850cm high, two years old. £75 ono
Three glass door oak sideboard/TV cabinet £50 ono
01446 794788

Public Notices

In the Birmingham Evening Register
Local Edition, page 50, issue No. 1000
BEST BIDS LIMITED
Company Reg. No. 04000262
Registered Office: Unit 101-104, 1st Floor, Garden Centre, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 3JL
Postmaster: Please send address changes to Best Bids Limited, PO Box 1000, Newton Mearns, Glasgow G71 9PL. Returns for undelivered mail: Care of Royal Mail, Farnham Lane, Llanelli, Dyfed SA15 3EP. Postage Paid. The Royal Mail International Reply Coupons (RIC) 0121 4461 0000, were issued as an alternative to International Reply Coupons (IRC) 0121 4461 0000. International Reply Coupons (IRC) 0121 4461 0000, were issued as an alternative to Royal Mail International Reply Coupons (RIC) 0121 4461 0000. Contact Royal Mail Support on 0121 4461 0000. Royal Mail International Reply Coupons (RIC) 0121 4461 0000.

NOTICE
Bridgend Lifesavers' Credit Union Ltd

AGM on Wednesday 8th February 2012, 7pm

Brewery Field,
Tondu Road,
Bridgend, CF31 4JE

Nomination forms and further details available from 01656 724895, or download from www.blscu.co.uk

Martin Hughes, Secretary, on behalf of Board of Directors
Charity No. 1012C

09 Volkswagen Polo
3-dr hatch 1.2E 60 Diamond black, excellent condition, central locking, mileage 11,000
£6,200
01446 776891
07870 264166

1999 V Reg Ford Fiesta Finesse
Only 42,500 miles, tax & MoT Aug 2012.
2 lady owners
£600
07891 673268

GEM Family Notices**Birthday Wishes**

Happy 50th Birthday
Ray Thomas
on 4th February
Hope you have a wonderful day.

Love you loads - Julia, Lowri, Chlöe, James, Gareth, Mum and Dad and Val
50
xx

Happy 18th Birthday
BECKI
on February 8.
*Lots of love,
Nainy & Ganky.
XXX*

**What's on and where in your area****Eisteddfod****Nearly new sale**

A 'MURDER' is committed at the Childbirth Trust will hold a nearly new sale at Cowbridge Leisure Centre, The Broadshard, Cowbridge, on March 3 from 11am-12.30pm (Doors open 10.45am for NCT members with membership card).

Pupils from Llantwit Major School, guided by drama teacher Natalie Richards, will render assistance.

Three-course meal and entertainment, £25 per person; contact Illtud's 216 on 01446 796489.

More information and menu on www.illtuds216.co.uk.

Places limited, please book early!

Abstract art demo**COWBRIDGE Art**

Society will meet on Thursday, February 9 at 7pm at the Old Hall, Vale and Valleys branch (formerly Bridgend, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major branch) to train three breastfeeding counsellors and two antenatal teachers.

Non members are welcome to attend.

For more details of the society go to www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

Author inspires young writers

ABOVE: Dan signed books, footballs and cards and chatted to pupils and staff after his presentation.

'STRIVE to achieve your dreams'; 'Never give up' - and 'Believe in yourself'. These were the three clear messages for the Barry Comprehensive School's year-7 pupils - during an exciting presentation by football writer and young people's author, Dan Freedman.

He's just as competitive off the pitch as on the pitch and it is that drive to win that has ensured his success. Dan not only writes eloquently about the beautiful game, but about the 'ups' and 'downs' of everyday life for teenager Jamie Johnson, a boy with a dream.

Dan can captivate the imagination of his readers and this was certainly the case during his presentation.

Pupils were given tips on how to describe accurately the atmosphere at a football match or the path of a winning goal.

Back in the classroom, I am sure that our budding year-7 writers will remember his inspiring words.

AC

Motors For Sale**04 Daewoo Kalos 3x**

1.4 Auto, met green, 30,000 miles, 6 months MoT & Tax, one owner from new, emigrating.

£1,600
01656 880859

BUYING A NEW CAR?

Advertise your old one with us

Telephone Gareth
01446 774484

W. H. PREENE & SON

INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST
PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLAN AVAILABLE

54 MAIN STREET, CADDOXTON
Telephone 01446 420520

Cadoxton Funeral Home

Park Independent Funeral Directors

- Local 24 hr dedicated phone line.
- Service chapel to seat 50 or 250 available.

Call us on 01446 421212
www.parkfunerals.co.uk

7 Tynewydd Rd, Barry, CF62 8HB

Cowbridge under-11s pass their double test

ON Sunday
Cowbridge under-11s hosted two teams at home, Llantwit Fadre and a touring team from Surrey, Old Caterhamians RFC.

On Sunday morning, even though the cold did not lift and the pitch became a bit heavy under foot, all three teams did their best to play running rugby.

The first game saw Cowbridge take on the touring team, Old Caterhamians. The Surrey team were not used to playing on such a wide pitch and this showed early on, when the Cowbridge backs made a few long passes to get outside the Old Cats narrow defence.

It was only a matter of time before the first try came, as Old Cats lost possession deep inside their own 22.

Ben Jones tackled the Old Cats scrum half and turned the ball over, for Ioan Williams to quickly feed Reuben Williams who was standing at number 10 for a simple run in.

Cowbridge extended the scoring with simple but effective hands across the backs – it was Ed Lewis who had the

easiest of tasks to run in try number two.

From a ruck 10 metres out, Evan Thomas passed to Barny Langton-Cryer who, with Luke Martin, executed a well-rehearsed move to put Ed Lewis in for his second try of the game.

Ed Lewis, with his confidence growing each week, looked up and made a great break, feeding Barny Langton-Cryer with a long pass just before he got tackled.

In space Langton-Cryer outpaced the Old Cats defence for a great run in from the half way line. The half time score was Cowbridge 20 – Old Cats 0.

Early on in the second half, Old Cats crossed the line for their first try of the game. The try came from excellent side stepping by the Old Cats fly half, though the Cowbridge tackling was not at its best.

Old Cats seemed to gain in confidence from their opening score and after a series of penalties the tiring Cowbridge defence finally succumbed, to make it Cowbridge 20 – Old Cats 10.

After the fourth phase

of play Cowbridge's Harry Edwards who found himself on the overlap and crossed the line in the corner for a great all round team try.

The final try of the game from a great individual effort by Evan Thomas. The Cowbridge number 10 found himself in the middle of the Old Cats pack, but the Old Cats tackling began to drop off and Evan found himself in plenty of space and made a run for the line from the half way line.

Final score – Cowbridge 30 – Old Caterhamians 10

The second game of the day was Cowbridge against local team Llantwit Fadre.

Ben Jones made a charge for the line with a customary hard run only to be held up over the line. Within minutes Jones had made the same charge to the line, this time to make it Cowbridge 5 – Llantwit Fadre 0.

Llantwit responded

immediately with a great individual try from a side stepping centre, who ran virtually the length of the field untouched.

It was only in the last minute of the half that Cowbridge managed to cross the line again. This time the forwards made good ground down the right wing. Ioan Williams made a dart for the line only to get brought down inches short. Quick recycled ball, found Reuben Williams in plenty of space for a canter to the undefended line. The half time score was Cowbridge 10 – Llantwit Fadre 5.

The second half followed the same pattern as the first, with both defences on top and the conditions resulting in lots of scrums. With the game evenly balanced it was Cowbridge who made the decisive score.

At a lineout just

inside the Llantwit Fadre

half, a well worked forwards move saw Norton

broke through some weak tackles and charged to the line taking a few defenders with him.

With the game in its final moments, Llantwit were trying to run the ball out of their own 22. Given the conditions the ball got knocked on and the Cowbridge back row duo of Ben Jones and Iestyn Fenn dived on the loose ball. It was a close call, but Fenn was the first to the ball and claimed the final try of the game.

Final score Cowbridge 20 – Llantwit Fadre 5.

After the game,

Cowbridge hosted Old Caterhamians and Llantwit Fadre in the clubhouse.

The captains for Cowbridge and Old Caterhamians made excellent speeches and exchanged mementos of the day. A thoroughly enjoyable weekend all round and we look forward to the return trip to Surrey next year.

JS

ON AND OFF THE TRACK with Brian Lee

Trainer could field three in classic

ABERTHIN trainer Tim Vaughan is considering fielding three runners in the William Hill Welsh Champion Hurdle at Ffos Las on February 4, in an attempt to beat last year's winner Oscar Whisky – owned by the racecourse's owner Dai Walters and trained by Nicky Henderson at Lambeur.

Vaughan said: "Ffos Las offers great prize-money and it's a fantastic track, and I'll be supporting the races."

Enjoying his best ever season having saddled 80 winners to date, he added: "Rigidity was second in the Ladbrooke Hurdle and he has a fair old engine on him. He will be entered and is likely to run.

"Ski Sunday is a better hurdler than a chaser and, on his rating of 142, we'll go back to hurdles and he'll take his chance at Ffos Las.

"I'll also enter Scorched Son. He'll need to improve, but he was second at Ffos Las just before Christmas. We always support Ffos Las when we can as they do such a brilliant job."

Ffos Las supremo Dai Walters, who is hoping to win the race again this year before taking on the unbeaten hurdle Cheltenham Festival in March, welcomes the fact that Tim is considering running three in the race. Speaking last week at Nicky Henderson's yard, he said:

"The more the merrier, as we want to stage a competitive race."

Walters warned that Oscar Whisky is entered in two races at Cheltenham and said:

"A lot of people are saying if any horse can beat Big Buck's then it's



ABOVE: Oscar Whisky — a good chance to be placed.

going to be mine. I'm not going to be bullish, but Oscar will be one of the best he has come across and is a lot stronger than last year."

Trainer Nicky Henderson told the number of racing scribes gathered, of which I was one: "Oscar Whisky would be capable of being placed in the Champion Hurdle again, but you can see what he can do when you give him another half-mile. I'm very much in the three-mile camp (the distance of the World Hurdle) as he has done two miles, five furlongs standing on his head.

"He's only got to get another three. Obviously we've got Big Buck's to beat, but if his stamina lasts, he must have a good chance as any to get close to him."

COWBRIDGE CAR BUYER

Will Buy Any Car,
Hassle free,
Saves PX, or selling privately
Top prices, paid cash

MYLES BROWNING
07769608517

J M TOWING

**TOWBAR
FITTING
AND
ACCESSORIES**



Towbar Fitting - Most makes and models at competitive prices.

EU dedicated wiring looms.

Bypass relays also fitted.

Bike Racks.

Reversing Sensors

Diagnostic Testing.

Ring for a quote ...



Get it ready now for summer!

15% OFF any towbar fitted till end of February.

01446 733066

www.jmtowing.co.uk

**Unit 15 Palmerston Workshops,
Palmerston Road, BARRY CF63 2YZ**

CAR HIRE FROM £38 PER DAY!

- Ford Fiesta
- Ford Focus
- Ford Focus-Estate
- Ford S-Max
- 6 seat VW Transporter
- Mercedes/Renault 9 seat minibuses



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

WICK (01656) 660160

Full details available on our website:
www.wickvanhire.co.uk

LANDOW van centre

- Van Sales-Spares-Repairs
- Van MOT Preparation
- Vehicle Recovery-Collection and Delivery

**Tel: 01446 793550 or 793540
Mobile: 07810 350433**

Llandow Trading Estate, CF71 7PB



PMC

The Penarth Motor Company

*"Providing
Probably The
Lowest Priced
Vehicles
In The Vale"*



**All Cars Reduced! New MoT with Every Car! 6 Month Warranty
with Every Car! Oil and Filter Service with Every Car!**

WAS £3,999 NOW £3,195	WAS £4,495 NOW £3,795	WAS £2,999 NOW £2,695	WAS £5,495 NOW £4,950	WAS £3,495 NOW £3,195
04 04 Citroen Xsara Picasso Desire 2.0 HDi Diesel 63k	03 03 Audi A2 Sport 1.6 FSH	02 52 Vauxhall Zafira 1.8 Comfort 7 seats	07 56 Peugeot 207 1.6 HDi Sport Diesel 5dr	02 02 Volkswagen Beetle 2.0 Alloys, air con, spoiler
WAS £5,000 NOW £3,850	WAS £4,295 NOW £3,495	WAS £3,495 NOW £3,000	WAS £3,999 NOW £3,495	WAS £8,495 NOW £8,000
08 08 Mazda 5 1.8 TS2 45k, FSH, 7 seats, 1 owner	05 55 Citroen C3 Desire 5dr 46k, air con	04 04 Renault Clio 182 Cup Sport 65k	1997 P Mercedes-Benz SLK Auto 230K Only 73k, immaculate	08 08 Honda Civic CDTi SE 51k, Diesel, FSH
WAS £3,695 NOW £3,495	WAS £3,999 NOW £3,295	WAS £9,000 NOW £8,495	WAS £4,495 NOW £4,195	WAS £2,500 NOW £2,295
04 54 Renault Megane Scenic 1.5 DCi Expression Diesel, air con, alloys	04 54 Renault Megane 1.6 Dynamique Convertible, pan roof, leather	07 07 MINI COOPER Sport 2 owners, 46k, FSH	03 53 BMW 318SE Touring 86k, FSH	03 03 RENAULT Megane Scenic Fidji 1.6 56k
WAS £4,250 NOW £4,150	WAS £19,000 NOW £18,195	WAS £3,995 NOW £3,795	WAS £7,495 NOW £7,000	WAS £3,795 NOW £3,650
08 58 Renault Grand Modus 1.2 Dynamique 58k, FSH	09 09 Mercedes-Benz C220 Auto CDI Sport 1 owner, 28k, diesel, FSH	05 55 Citroen C3 1.4 Desire 5-dr, aircon, 1 owner, 28k	09 59 Nissan Note Accenta Auto, 5-dr, 22k, 1 owner	03 52 Mercedes-Benz A Class 170 CDi Avantgarde. Diesel Auto
WAS £7,999 NOW £7,250	WAS £3,795 NOW £3,495	WAS £2,990 NOW £19,999	WAS £2,795 NOW £2,495	WAS £5,205 NOW £5,000
04 54 Audi A3 3.2 V6 Quattro Sport DSG 3-dr, only 58k, stunning car	05 54 PEUGEOT 206 Sport 1.4 54k	08 58 BMW 320D MSport Convertible 1 owner, 34k, diesel, FSH	02 02 Peugeot 206 CC 1.6 Alloys, CD, low miles	08 58 Citroen C1 Rhythm 1.0 3-dr, FSH, 40k

For full stock list and more pictures visit us at:

www.thepenarthmotorco.co.uk

WE CAN SOURCE ANY
CAR, ANY AGE, ANY
COLOUR BEST PRICES!!
Just Give Us A Call

02920 707090
Mob: 07792 468035/07792 467880
Windsor Road. Penarth CF64 1JG



LARGEST SELECTION OF CARS IN BARRY

BUY NOW – PAY MARCH 2012



Howe Motors Ltd • Powell Dyffryn Way • Barry • Vale of Glamorgan • CF62 5QR • 01446 738088

SEE OUR SELECTION OF 4X4'S. "NO GETTING STUCK THIS WINTER"

www.howemotors.co.uk

FULLY EQUIPPED WORKSHOP

OVER 120 CARS TO CHOOSE FROM

TRAINED AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIANS

CARS FROM £295-£49,995

COMPETITIVE FINANCE RATES

BAD CREDIT CATERED FOR

CARS, VANS, MPV'S 4x4'S

RAC WARRANTY SCHEME

CARS BOUGHT FOR CASH

NO OBLIGATION TEST DRIVE

WORKSHOPS EQUIPPED WITH LATEST TECHNOLOGY

ONLINE SHOWROOM



AUDI BMW CITROEN
FORD HONDA
JAGUAR LEXUS
MAZDA NISSAN
PEUGEOT RENAULT
SEAT VW VOLVO



£8,995



£5,995



£11,445



£12,995



£8,995



£8,995



£6,995



£6,995



£26,995



£5,995



£6,995



£26,995



£4,995



£5,995



£6,995



£7,995



£7,995



£7,995



£7,495



£7,445



£6,995



£5,495



£9,995+VAT



£4,495

ALL CARS HPI CHECKED • RAC WARRANTY • PART-EX WELCOME • FINANCE PACKAGES TO SUIT MOST • ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS • 0% DEPOSIT FINANCE

Opening Times: Monday - Friday 9am - 6.30pm • Saturday - Sunday 9am - 5.30pm • OPEN 7 DAYS **01446 738088**

HOWE MOTORS LTD.



First Response
Take care of your Business

blackhorse

Close Motor Finance

RAC
Warranty



Mitsubishi Lancer Evo is so good!

ROAD rage can be a problem on roads today and there have been some horrific stories.

But believe it or not, a tonic to this could be the magnificent Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution X FQ-300. It's like a thug of the road - every motorist treats it with absolute respect - knowing its capabilities all too well and consequently they keep a very respectful distance.

Could it be an unmarked police vehicle? You never know these days. No more 4x4s sitting on your tail that's for sure, as the drivers notice a chunky exhaust pipe on either side at the rear.

But, of course, the driver has to resist the temptation to sit on the tail of the car in front.

The only other concern is that this highly desirable motor could be a target for thieves. However, there are so few Egos about that it surely wouldn't be too hard to find again.

To put this sub-£40,000 brute in perspective, it will hit 60mph from standstill in just five seconds, placing it in AMG Mercedes, BMW M-series and even the £240,000 Bentley Continental GTC turbo territory.

As with the above, it's when the two-litre turbo, 290bhp Evo is stuck behind a tractor, a lorry and a dithering old age pensioner that it really comes into its own.

The acceleration is so awesome that it will propel you in complete safety.

"It's like a scalded cat," commented a work colleague. He's not wrong. Push the accelerator down and aside from the massive adrenaline rush, the landscape suddenly becomes a blur, too.

The force generated is comparable to taking off in an aircraft, pushing the driver (and occupants) right back in their seats.

That's without engaging sports mode! The all-wheel drive Evo ensures that the magnificent power range is equally distributed between each wheel, while Brembo brakes competently stop it when required. There arearmac, gravel and snow functions, too.

No surprise that this is one of the most successful rally cars alongside the Subaru Impreza. A smooth six-speed auto allows the driver to concentrate on the road but for added driving pleasure there are very easy to use paddleshifts.

Pleasingly, there's a traditional handbrake - for complete control - rather than a switch as is often the case these days. As with most muscle cars these days the Evo is limited to 155mph.

Surprisingly, you don't need to drive this vehicle fast to thoroughly enjoy it, though. Cruise around town and the tone of the exhaust and its eye-catching design is enough to stop any

passer-by in their tracks. Its rakish, purposeful and imposing looks mean that the Evo has immense road presence as it rumbles along and generates many lustful looks from other motorists, too.

It tackles the motorway with ease and longer journeys improve fuel economy.

Surprisingly, there's no cruise control, but it doesn't matter - you have to be light with your right foot because if you're not you'll lose your licence.

It is suffice to say that an Evo driver sitting in their incredibly comfortable and supportive bucket seat feels as safe and secure as possible knowing that they are in a highly capable sports car.

That rocket-like power doesn't need to be used but just knowing that it's there is comforting. You know that it will get you out of trouble if required.

Strangely, when the Evo's ignition is turned off, the engine continues to run for a little while afterwards - but this adds to its character.

*On the road price: £16,879 to £37,804;
0-60mph: 5 seconds;
Top speed: 155mph;
Economy: 23mpg (extra urban).*

TIM SAUNDERS

AutoPro CAR SALES

Open 7 days a week: 9.30am to 4pm

www.auto-pro.co.uk



2004 RENAULT Clio Expression. Black, MoT Jan 13, service history, e/w, cl, p/s, alloys £2,495



2003 RENAULT Clio 1.2 Extreme. Silver, fsh, e/w, cl, s/r £2,395



2002 VAUXHALL Golf GTI 1.8 Turbo 3-dr. Silver, fsh, 88k miles, new clutch, tax 04/12 £2,395



2001 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.2. 3-dr, 1 owner, s/r, cl, e/w, service history £1,795

98 JAGUAR XKR Supercharged V8. Low miles, air con, alloys, taxed to 02/12, service history £4,995

04 04 VOLKSWAGEN Bora diesel 1896cc, 4-dr saloon. Metallic beige, 1 former keeper, 2 keys, a/c, radio/cd, fsh, 94k, cruise control £3,795

57 07 FORD KA Zetec 1297cc 3-dr Hatchback. In black, 2 keys, radio/CD, power steering, e/windows, FSH, low miles 30k £3,495

02 VOLKSWAGEN Golf GTI 1.8 Turbo 3-dr. Silver, FSH £2,395

03 DAEWOO Kalos 1.4. 5-dr, alloys, c/s, p/w, a/c, service history, MoT Oct 12, tax April 12, mileage 69k £1,895

00 BMW 520 Automatic. Air con, cd, fsh, sun roof, taxed to 02/12 £1,895

00 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.8 7 seater. 1 owner, air con, sun roof, alloys, full Vauxhall service history, taxed to 04/12 £1,795

V 99 MERCEDES A160 Avantgarde 5-Dr 1.6. Metallic silver, leather heated seats, 2 keys, one owner from new, Sept 2012 MOT £1,795

00 CITROEN Saxo West Coast 1.4. Just serviced, MoT 13', tax May 12, 88k miles £1,495

99 FORD Fiesta 74k miles, MoT Jan 13, tax June 12', 5-dr, just serviced, 1 owner £1,195

NEW STOCK ARRIVING DAILY (All cars come with 12 months MOT or long MOT) Special offers on limited stock

EXHAUSTS • TYRES • BATTERIES • 4x4 TYRES • SHOCKS • BRAKES • MOT'S • DISCS • SERVICING

* ARE YOU READY FOR WINTER?



MAKE SURE YOU CAN STOP IN TIME...

FULL SERVICE & MOT SPECIAL
Offer available. Call for a quote price!

FREE WINTER SAFETY CHECK - CALL US TODAY

PREMIUM TYRE SPECIALS

Size / Make

175/65 TR 14 Firestone Multivue

Buy 1

Buy 2

Buy 4

£51.95

£99

£190

195/65 HR 15 Firestone TZ200

£56.50

£110

£210

205/55 VR 16 Bridgestone ER300

£79.95

£155

£299

225/45 YR 17 Bridgestone Sport

£115.95

£220

£425

EXHAUSTS

TO FIT VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 (93-00)

bosch

185-339 REAR SILENCER ONLY

£19.95

TYRES * WINTER TYRES

from only £56.95

Ask us for details.

BATTERIES

UK063E

ONLY

£46.95

WITH 4 YEAR WARRANTY

STANDARD TYRES from

£33.75

165/70TR13

FROM ONLY £33.75

175/70TR14

FROM ONLY £39.75

175/65TR14

FROM ONLY £39.95

PERFORMANCE TYRES from

£44.25

185/60HR14

FROM ONLY £44.25

185/65HR15

FROM ONLY £48.45

195/65HR15

FROM ONLY £49.95

HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES from

£47.95

195/60VR15

FROM ONLY £47.95

195/65VR15

FROM ONLY £49.95

205/55VR16

FROM ONLY £49.95

ULTRA HIGH PERFORMANCE TYRES from

£51.75

205/55WR16

FROM ONLY £51.75

225/45WR17

FROM ONLY £57.95

225/40WR18

FROM ONLY £61.95

IF YOUR TYRE SIZE IS NOT SHOWN PLEASE CALL FOR A QUOTATION.

ALL INCLUSIVE PRICES WITH NO HIDDEN EXTRAS!



BARRY
Cardiff Road, Cadwton
Barry CF63 2QW
01446 733167



CARDIFF
271 Penarth Road
Cardiff CF11 8TT
029 20 382644



ETB

A family run business for over 30 years.



WE WILL
NOT BE BEATEN
ON PRICE!



WE ARE OPEN: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8.00am - 5.30pm, SATURDAYS 8.00am - 4.00pm.

OUR PRICES ARE ALL INCLUSIVE - NO HIDDEN EXTRAS! ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED.

SOUTH WALES LEADING EURO SPECIALISTS

Included with all Dealer Quality Major Servicing:

Fully OFT Approved Garage & Trained Technicians
Complete Manufacturer Specification Service Check
Up to 400 checks performed plus extra 50 point Permovo checklist,
we don't believe a quick oil change is a real service! Our services are the
most comprehensive you'll find.

Full AirCon Check & Gas Top-up

Don't forget Aircon helps demist your windows even when it's snowing!

High Quality Oil & Quality Parts

Authorised or Main Dealer Parts only! Mobil 1 oil as standard as per
Manufacturers Spec. We don't cut corners by using cheap parts or oils!

Full Advanced Main Dealer Diagnostic

Get a full report from the very latest in Diagnostic equipment. We give every
service customer FREE access to the most in depth and broad diagnostic
equipment you'll find anywhere in the area. Our diagnostic customers even
includes several local Main Dealers!

Courtesy Car or Drop Off & Collection

We have Luxury Lexus and Mercedes models available Free!

Full Mini Valet

Laser Wheel Alignment & Tracking



The only Independent **BMW, Mercedes, Porsche & Jaguar** specialist in South Wales with OFT Approval!

Our highly skilled former main dealer staff & technicians, trained to the highest standards have years of experience in everything from 40 year old Jaguars, cutting edge Porsche's to the latest BMW models. With the latest Diagnostic equipment exceeding what even the dealer can do, we can solve any problem with big savings for you.

Put simply we have the largest selection of diagnostic equipment in South Wales providing coverage for almost **Every Make and Model**. Whether you have an engine or abs light on, are suffering battery drain, have dpf problems, key and immobiliser issues or harsh gearbox changes we can do more just diagnose; we can fix it inhouse.

Being a family run business we put traditional values at the core of everything we do, putting you the customer first, we want you to return as a customer year after year. Rest assured that with Permovo your car is in safe, knowledgeable & trustworthy hands. All our work is guaranteed and will not affect your manufacturers or used car warranty.

Permovo vehicle servicing is the most comprehensive you'll find, we provide exceptional value for money and with free services like **Laser Wheel Alignment**, **AirCon Check with Top up**, **Battery Starter & Charging Test** and **Main Dealer Diagnostic** which are included with all Major services there isn't any other garage in South Wales that comes close!

WE ARE THE AFFORDABLE DEALER ALTERNATIVE!

Mobil 1

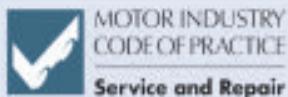
ASK ABOUT OUR DPF REFURB & REMOVAL SERVICE

- ✓ Servicing
- ✓ Dealer Diagnostics
- ✓ ECU Repairs
- ✓ MOT Testing
- ✓ DPF Problems
- ✓ Brakes & ABS
- ✓ Transmission Servicing
- ✓ Air-Con Repairs
- ✓ Engine & Mechanical
- ✓ Keys & Key Repairs
- ✓ Warranty Claims
- ✓ Tyres & Tyre Repairs
- ✓ Laser Wheel Alignment
- ✓ Main Dealer Staff
- ✓ Free Courtesy Car



Euro Specialists

Permovo - 0800 033 7807 - www.permovo.ltd.uk
5 Woodham Road, Barry Docks, CF63 4JE





SPORT, PRESTIGE & 4x4

06 JAGUAR XK (New model) in black with cream leather, 49,000 miles, high spec sports coupe £19,995

58 AUDI A4 2.9 TDi Convertible S-Line in red with black leather trim, 27,000 miles £15,695

55 CHRYSLER C300 CRD Auto in met-grey, 35,000 miles, fantastic looking diesel with extras £9,995

06 LANDROVER Freelander 2.0 Diesel. 3-dr HSE, in met blue, 62,000 miles, leather, sat nav £8,995

54 AUDI A4 3.0 Sport Convertible Auto. In met blue with full beige leather, 85,000 miles £6,995

03 BMW 325 2.5Ci M-Sport Convertible Auto. Silver, 79,270 miles £6,495

08 08 MITSUBISHI Colt 1.5 CZT. 3-dr, pearl black, 1 owner, 42,295 miles £5,995

06 RENAULT Megane 1.9 Diesel Dynamique Convertible in blue, 27,000 miles £5,995

04 MERCEDES C200 Kompressor Avantgarde Auto in black with leather, 67,000 miles, 1 owner £5,995

06 SKODA Octavia 2.0 FSi Sport. In silver, 59,964 miles £4,995

05 VAUXHALL Tigra 1.3 CDTi Sport, in ice blue, 65,000 mile diesel convertible £4,995

53 JAGUAR S-Type 3.0 SE Auto in silver with cream leather, 75,000 miles £4,995

98 MERCEDES V280 Ambiente Auto 6-Seater turquoise blue, full leather, 78,000 miles with extras £4,995

01 MERCEDES ML 430 Auto in silver with black leather, 68,000 miles, LPG gas conversion £4,995

06 FORD Fiesta ST in red, 51,000 miles, 2 owners, stylish hot hatch at £4,695

52 MERCEDES C180 Elegance SE Auto. In jade met, 84,000 mile example at £3,995

52 JEEP Cherokee 3.7 LTD Auto. In bronze with black leather, go any where at £3,995

02 JAGUAR X-Type 3.0 SE Auto. In champagne with cream leather, 72,000 miles £3,495

03 JAGUAR X-Type 2.0 SE. In met-blue with cream leather trim, fantastic value £2,995

04 MG ZT 1.8. In Red, 50,000 miles, fantastic value at £2,495

53 MG ZT 2.5 Auto. In Bright met. blue with two-tone half leather trim, 82,000 miles, sports saloon £2,495

03 MGTF 135. In silver with grey leather, 58,000 mile local car, in superb condition at only £2,495

06 SEAT Ibiza 1.4S Automatic 3-dr, jazz blue, 11,966 miles, 1 owner £3,995

06 JAGUAR XK (New model) Black with cream leather, 49,000 miles £19,995

06 SEAT Altea 1.9 TDi Styline. In met grey, 47,000 mile diesel £6,995

03 SEAT Ibiza 1.9TDI SE 5-dr. In met-bronze with alloys etc £2,995

06 06 MITSUBISHI Lancer 1.6 Equipe. 4-dr, silver, 65,117 miles £2,495

03 53 FORD Fiesta 1.6 Zetec. 3-dr, burnt orange, 71,322 miles £2,495

53 ROVER 75 Club 1.8T Auto. In met Gold, 37,000 miles £1,995

01 Y TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 16v VVTi GLS. 3-dr, silver, automatic, 81,179 miles £1,995

06 LAND ROVER Freelander 2.0 Diesel Met blue, 62,000 miles, leather, sat nav £8,995

03 PORSCHE Cayenne 4.5 S Automatic Silver/Black Leather, 39,000 Miles £14,995



SMALL, ECONOMICAL & FAMILY CARS

06 SEAT Altea 1.9 TDi Styline. In met grey, 47,000 mile diesel £6,995

03 SEAT Ibiza 1.9TDI SE 5-dr. In met-bronze with alloys etc £2,995

06 06 MITSUBISHI Lancer 1.6 Equipe. 4-dr, silver, 65,117 miles £2,495

03 53 FORD Fiesta 1.6 Zetec. 3-dr, burnt orange, 71,322 miles £2,495

53 ROVER 75 Club 1.8T Auto. In met Gold, 37,000 miles £1,995

01 Y TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 16v VVTi GLS. 3-dr, silver, automatic, 81,179 miles £1,995

06 LAND ROVER Freelander 2.0 Diesel Met blue, 62,000 miles, leather, sat nav £8,995

03 PORSCHE Cayenne 4.5 S Automatic Silver/Black Leather, 39,000 Miles £14,995

RAC WARRANTIES All cars supplied with new MoT and 6 months RAC warranty. Just a small selection of our comprehensive range in stock. Visit our website for full details.

RAC WARRANTIES

Broad Street, Barry (Next to Barry train Station) **01446 722600**

FINANCE PACKAGES TO SUIT ALL • 0% DEPOSIT FINANCE AVAILABLE • ALL CARS HPI CLEAR • PART EXCHANGE WELCOME • OPEN 7 DAYS CARS BOUGHT FOR CASH • ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS TAKEN



MULTI-PHOTOS AND FULL DESCRIPTION ON WEBSITE
www.garywatsonmotorcompany.co.uk





GEM sport

WALES QUIETLY CONFIDENT, BUT WARY OF IRISH BACKLASH IN SIX NATIONS OPENER

PREDICTING the winner of a Six Nations tournament is a notoriously difficult (*and some would say, pointless*) exercise which, for this writer at least, is best left to others who feel more qualified in the media – for it is fraught with so many imponderables.

Individual form, fitness, and availability are just three of the purely physical elements to be taken into account – never mind the far more obscure mental and emotional factors that can have a crucial bearing on a team's performance on any given match day – and about which those outside the camp can know nothing.

Only one thing is certain, as the Six Nations kicks off this weekend – all of these concerns will be weighing heavily

Don John previews a wide-open campaign that is impossible to predict

on the minds of those who ARE in the know – the head coaches. After all, that is why they earn the big bucks!

Those casting around for clues to the eventual outcome can, of course, point to last year's tournament and on this basis, gifted but unpredictable France (who, against the odds, also made the final of the Rugby World Cup in New Zealand) are again the bookies' favourites.

In fact, though, it is not quite as simple as that.

Judged purely on recent Six Nations results, Wales could again expect to finish fourth in the table – but that would mean ignoring the profound transformation that has taken place since then in the Welsh psyche – as evidenced in that physically awesome performance against Ireland in the RWC quarter final – and also

the heroic 14-man display that almost brought victory over France in the dramatic semi-final.

After so many long years in the rugby wilderness, buoyant fans are justified in their growing optimism; though with such a relatively small playing base to draw on, the Welsh camp will be keen to dampen expectations – particularly in the light of a mounting injury toll (possibly affecting up to a third of the World Cup team).

Head coach Warren Gatland has sounded an optimistic yet cautionary note, pointing out that in the last four years, the tournament had been won by four different nations:

"We had a good Rugby World Cup. It was great – but this Six Nations is wide open and we don't want to let ourselves

down," he said.

Harking back to the stunning 22-10 victory over Ireland in Wellington, the quietly-spoken Kiwi added: "We had done our homework for that RWC match, but I'm expecting a backlash" (in their opening Six Nations clash in Dublin on Sunday).

He is right to be wary, for there is no doubt that the Irish, boosted by the impressive showing of their top three regions in Europe, will be determined to avenge that crushing blow to their pride.

Paul O'Connell, acting skipper in the absence of the injured Brian O'Driscoll, made Irish intentions crystal clear in the countdown to renewed hostilities between these two arch Celtic rivals: "There is no doubt that there's an edge to it... It's a tough rivalry... Some of the games

have been brilliant, high intensity, physical encounters.

"We lost to the Welsh in the quarter final of the World Cup because we didn't play to our potential, and paid the price. We can't afford to make a slow start against Wales on Sunday."

If that match is key to both teams' title hopes, so too is the other needle encounter on Saturday in Edinburgh, when the Scottish dark horses take on the 'auld enemy' England, now resurrected under 'caretaker' coach Stuart Lancaster – after the unfortunate Martin Johnson's demise in the wake of World Cup failure and players' off-field misdeeds.

Another prominent managerial casualty at 'HQ', Andy Robinson, now masterminding Scotland, has turned up the heat on his old team by stating that the Scots had let

a priceless victory slip through their fingers against England in their RWC group match. Some of the English players, he said, had "disrespected" Scotland: "Their disrespect took many forms and it builds up. In the end, it undermined Martin Johnson as manager," Robinson added with feeling.

Saturday also sees favourites France open their campaign under new coach Philippe Saint-Andre against long-odds Italy (who also have a new coach, Frenchman Jacques Brunel) but cannot afford to take them lightly, after being stunned by the Azzurri in the last Six Nations.

"It all goes to reinforce Gatland's belief that 'the 2012 Six Nations is wide open'.

"So, let battle commence and may the best team win – hopefully, Wales, of course!"

(SEE PAGE 12)



Wing James Olds on way to the try-line.

ATHLETIC DELIVER SHOCK IN THE CUP!

CARMARTHEN ATHLETIC 16 BRIDGEND ATHLETIC 19 SWALEC CUP – ROUND 2

B R I D G E N D
Athletic provided one of the surprises of the second round as they reversed a 29-8 league loss the previous week at C a r m a r t h e n Athletic, by returning to the Johnston Road ground with a well deserved 19-16 victory.

The Athletic showed there is strength in depth at the club and plenty of team spirit with well attended training sessions.

The selectors were able to make eight personnel changes to the previous week's team, two in the back division and six in the pack. A major boost was the return to the club of outside half Stephen Lewis for his first game of the season since transferring back from Tonmawr.

Also making his senior debut was one of last season's youth outside halves, Johnny Phillips, who filled the full back role with Mike Hathaway switching to outside centre and

James Olds moving to the wing.

At prop former Wales youth team captain and club captain Rod Jones also made his first start of the season after moving back to this area. Stuart Nation came in at hooker to accompany prop Rod Apsee.

Second rows Callum McCleod and Jamie Doherty were returned to the first team after being instrumental in the success of the Second XV topping the Welsh National League.

At back row flanker Stuart Edbrooke was

restored and No 8 Dan Apsee also returned after a spell out injured to join captain Matthew Hillman in the back row.

From the start the whole attitude of the team was different to the previous week. They were hungry for the ball and protected possession when they had it, unlike the previous week when there were too many turnovers and poor tackling.

From the kick off they regained possession and quick passing along the line involving scrum half Aled Thomas



Lock Callum McCleod crossing for his try

and centres Stuart Morris and Mike Hathaway, saw wing James Olds cross in the corner.

The second try was like the Athletic of old. Outside half Stephen Lewis noted the Carmarthen team walking back casually from a penalty on the Athletic 22.

He took a quick tap penalty and ran to the half way line. Interpassing involving Lewis, No 8 Dan Apsee and wing Lyndsey Maclusland saw hooker Stuart Nation on hand to cross for his seventh try. Lewis converted to increase the lead to 19-6.

The home side then threw everything they had at the Athletic resulting in two tries for lock Mike Thomas.



Flanker and captain Matthew Hillman.
PHOTOS COURTESY OF KERRY FOTHERGILL

However, the Bridgend side showed great resolve to hold out for a position in the draw for the remaining 16 clubs, only Ammanford and UWIC joining them from Div 1 West.

Welsh youth hooker Evan Yardley the son of director of rugby Paul made his first team debut as a late substitute. Flanker Stuart Edbrooke was voted man of the match, while prop Rod Apsee was voted the Athletic player of January in addition to his previous player of October award.

The Athletic would like a Premiership side at home in the next round on February 18. They have already met Swansea twice, Cardiff,

Family fun...
Bridgend GOLF Complex

- Nine-Hole Golf Course
- Pay & Play
- All-weather flood light driving range
- All equipment available for hire
- Professional Tuition
- Fitness and Leisure . . .
The Healthy Option!

EXCELLENT VALUE

Weekdays: 9 holes £6.00,
18 holes £9.00

Weekends and bank holidays:
Prices retained

Tel: 01656 647926

We're easy to find - off A48,
opposite Bridgend Ford



Book for VALENTINE'S
3 Courses £14.95
Tuesday
14th February
at the
Red Lion
Bonvilston
01446 781208